

Ku Klux Klan - 1928

## NOW FOR THE "DEAD MARCH FROM SAUL"

All reports indicate that the Klan's war chest is getting low and the morale of the knights falling—and at this, of all critical hours, in the life of the republic! The Pope is daily drilling his army of Swiss mercenaries in the garden of the Vatican with a view to landing an expeditionary force in Washington on the morning of March 4, 1929. Facing this inevitable invasion of our fair and pleasant land, the only unit of defense that we can really trust to make a stand is running low in munitions while the defeatist spirit slowly overwhelms the once heroic knights. Hi Evans is going up and down the land administering a strange new oath to the hardier spirits in the Klan and exhorting the boys everywhere to stand firm. He is assuring them that his decision to remove the mask and reveal the features of his soldiers to a flabbergasted world is no sign of weakness or decay.

The kligraph of the Montgomery klavern—according to the report of one of the Pope's secret spies—lately has found local funds running so low that retrenchment is inevitable. Accordingly it has been arranged that the kligraph, instead of drawing a wage for full-time service, is hereafter to work only part-time at the klavern. He is going into the pants-pressing business to piece out his income.

On top of all that come credible but disquieting reports of another serious defection from the Goat Hill sector. This newspaper, in the course of its duties as the faithful historian of the Alabama realm of the I. E., recently said that the Hon. Bibb Graves, "our giant Governor" was meditating withdrawal from the Shirttail Legions. We are now told that this is a lie, which it ain't—for, whatever may be that gentleman's present intentions, we must insist that but a few days ago he was giving serious thought to withdrawing—and that the Governor not only has no intention of getting out, but that he doesn't even think a State official who does resign from the Klan is entitled to janitor service.

... it isn't doing the morale of the common soldiers of the fiery cross any good to hear these reports of defection and desertion. And, according to the Pope's spy, whose reports we have been publishing, all this publicity by the alien press of the klavern meetings is having a demoralizing effect on footsore veterans everywhere. Thus speaks the cyclops of the local klavern:

The most serious thing that confronts us now, is that there is a traitor in our ranks, and the leak of the Montgomery meeting proclaiming to the world our secret plans, even before we were ready to tell our own membership is a blow that will be awfully hard to forget, and which did us untold harm through the fact that many members now will not take the new K-Trio degree through fear of their identity being disclosed to the eyes of the alien world.

All of this in Alabama, the scene of the Klan's last and most desperate stand, as well as the scene of its most recent and most impressive triumph! Emperor Evans's forces have been routed in Georgia, Texas, Kansas, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania. They remained strong only in Alabama, and even here have been out-numbered from the beginning, though by a lucky flank attack they won some mighty victories in 1926 and swept all before them in the battle with the Legislature in 1927.

Notwithstanding that in Alabama the Klan has won two United States Senators, several Congressmen, one Governor, numerous minor State officials, including many members of the Legislature, and a whole division of county officers, the Klan's war chest is running low, drastic retrenchment measures are found imperative and measures are necessary to check an apparently alarming defection.

The low estate of this once spiffy army in the most important year of its war surely is no matter to be passed over lightly. At a time when the band should be playing "The Star-Spangled Banner," to rally the tattered troopers for one more grand charge against the Pope's mercenaries, we find it tuning its instruments for "The Dead March from Saul."

"I am dying, Egypt, dying."

Alabama

## FLOGGINGS AND PUBLICITY

What has become of that flogging faronade that was so flamingly played up by the "big papers" and their satellites, last grass time? Couldn't work juries, boys? Scare died down too soon to help Al?—Coosa River News (Centre).

The floggings stopped when the publicity and prosecutions began. Not many convictions have thus far resulted from the indictments and prosecutions, but the crusade put the fear of God into the hearts of the kind of persons who band themselves together and torture helpless individuals.

Do not forget that there were several hundred floggings in Alabama. Do not forget that no responsible person ever denied the fact of flogging in each case. It has never been denied that among the victims were several women and a number of old men, one of whom was a cripple, another ill.

In Randolph County a Grand Jury reported that the Klan itself had flogged 17 persons—among them, women and old men, but the Grand Jury found itself helpless. It could not get sufficient evidence on which to indict individuals. The Klan flogged many persons in Crenshaw County, Talladega, and other counties. The Klan flogged Jeff Calloway and seven members of the order were convicted for that crime.

The Klan did not, however, commit all of the atrocities reported in Alabama in recent times. It merely denied that it committed any of them—and in face of the known fact that it did commit many of them.

The esteemed Coosa River News may be assured that if another outbreak of flogging occurs in Alabama at any time, there will be another outbreak of newspaper publicity, and another attempt to find the guilty persons and turn them into convicts.

And in that unhappy event, we shall again witness the spectacle of newspaper editors, politicians and others rushing to the defense of the floggers.

## 'Klan Krusader Dictation Is Not Asked,' Gunter

'Sinks Into Slime Of Deceit And Hate,' Is Charge

## Bigotry Slammed Attention Called To Delay Of Heflin

Denying "the right of Klan Krusader Heflin to put any real Democrat on the witness stand" Mayor W. A. Gunter of Montgomery, candidate for delegate at large to the Houston Democratic convention last night answered a tirade directed against him on the Senate floor by Senator Heflin Monday.

In his answer Mayor Gunter called attention to the fact that he challenged Senator Heflin on Jan. 23 to enter the primary in Alabama for the position of delegate at large. In that challenge Mayor Gunter announced his candidacy for delegate at large and that he would welcome a test between himself and Senator Heflin among the Democrats of Alabama as to who would represent them at the Houston convention.

Mayor Gunter calls attention to the fact that Senator Heflin waited more than ten weeks to reply to the challenge and failed to enter the Democratic primary for delegate-at-large.

Mayor Gunter's interview follows:

"My views and my Democracy are well known to the Democrats of Alabama.

"I deny the right of Klan-Krusader Heflin to put any real Democrat on the witness stand.

"On Jan. 23 I wired Heflin the following challenge:

"Jan. 23, 1928.

"Hon. J. Thomas Heflin,

"U. S. Senate,

"Washington, D. C.

"Today in the Senate you challenged me to run for governor of Alabama. That race is too far off. It does not come on until 1930. We can secure a quicker expression from the Democrats of this state on your notorious tar and feather threat to the Democratic leader of the Senate. I am tonight announcing myself as a candidate for delegate at large from Alabama to the National Democratic Convention to be held at Houston. I challenge you to announce



yourself also as a candidate for delegate at large. Let's give the loyal Democrats of Alabama this opportunity to speak their views on your efforts to dynamite free speech and free religion out of the Constitution.

(Signed) "W. A. GUNTER."

"Afraid to run for delegate he again sinks into the slime of deceit and hate. He has been such a vociferous waver of the Klan flag that he hasn't had time for anything else. But he knows one thing good and well, and that is, that my election as a delegate will be a clear cut message to him from the people that he will not continue to darken the Senate after 1930. In spite of his childish tirades the good people of Alabama will continue to build churches for every sect and religion wherein men may worship as they please.

"It is my desire to honestly and sincerely do whatever is best for Democracy at the Houston convention and I will abide by the will of the majority.

"I cannot hope to counsel or advise with Heflin or his Grand Wizard, or to make answer to any one who would destroy the Democratic party and our Democratic form of government by proclaiming the law of the mob or following the flag of character assassins and destroyers of religious freedom.

"I want the world to know that the Heflin brand of bigotry and intolerance finds no nourishment in the hearts of Alabamians. We eagerly await the opportunity to drive him from the Senate, where he so grossly misrepresents our state."

## KLAN HAS ALA. PASTOR UNDER SCRUTINY

The Rev. F. W. Jacobs Said To Have Riled Hooded Organization

DABNEY SEES EDITOR Columbia Prize Journalist Has Interest In Race

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — The F. W. Jacobs, Pastor Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, one of the most fashionable and aristocratic congregations in Montgomery, is under scrutiny of the Ku Klux Klan because of his open fight against jim-crowism here, it has been learned from reliable authority.

Rev. Jacobs has advised local Negro leaders to refrain from endorsing the jim-crow white dailies unless they consent to use the titles "Mister" and "Mistress" in their columns in referring to Negroes. He also made similar statements several times in his sermons; and as a result of these, several Klan mem-

bers attended his church to report to headquarters what he was saying. Despite rumors that the Klan had planned to get him, Rev. Jacobs has not as yet been molested by Klan members.

5-26-28

Liberal Whites

A few of the most liberal whites of Alabama have always opposed the lawless element of the state led by the Ku Klux Klan. Perhaps the most liberal and the most active of these is Mr. Grover Cleveland Hall, Editor of the Montgomery Advertiser and winner of the Pulitzer \$500 prize for 1927 "for his editorials against gangism, floggings and racial and religious intolerance."

At the beginning of Mr. Hall's fight against the Klan element his newspaper suffered considerably from a decrease in circulation. This was brought out in our conversation with reference to the reaction of the Montgomery public to Mr. Hall's stand against the Klan. The Montgomery Advertiser, however, has at present the largest circulation in its history. Mr. Hall explained this increase in circulation on the score that his newspaper has convinced the people that his view of the Klan is correct, and that his fight against lawlessness, mob rule and the Klan is in the best interest of the city and its citizens.

Baltimore and Industrialization

Mr. Hall expressed keen interest in race relations, stating that he believed that all the difficulties between the two races will in time be adjusted. He believes that both races should be tolerant and patient, working out their differences gradually according to the exigencies of the times.

Mr. Hall does not think that the industrialization of the South, resulting in closer contacts of rural and small town whites and Negroes who secure employment in mills and factories, will create new problems of race relations.

## Bonds Allowed Men Accused Of Flogging Girl

Mine Superintendent And Neighbor Face Assault And Battery Charges

Claim Club Used Miss Ruby McCarley Says Life Threatened

Ala., arrested today following charges by Miss McCarley, 19, that they flogged her last Thursday night, were released tonight on bonds of \$300 each.

West, a mining superintendent, and Tearford, were charged with assault and battery when Miss McCarley told of charges that she had been beaten with a club after one of the men had threatened her with a gun.

The two men are said to have followed Miss McCarley to Kansas, Ala., where the whipping took place, after the young woman had attempted to gain admittance to two hotels by impersonating the mine superintendent's daughter, Velma West.

It was said at the circuit solicitor's office here that the men were enraged because Miss McCarley attempted to enter a Carbon Hill, Ala., hotel by impersonating Velma West, the mine superintendent's daughter.

The girl was ejected from the hotel, the solicitor said, and went to Kansas, Ala., where she registered at a hotel under the name of Velma West.

West and Tearford are said to have followed her to Kansas where the whipping occurred.

The girl charges she was unmercifully beaten by West at Kansas, near Carbon Hill, Thursday night. Information obtained at the circuit solicitor's office here is to the effect that it is alleged that Miss McCarley went with others to the Brasher Hotel in Carbon Hill, where she was refused admittance and went from there to Kansas, where, it is alleged, she impersonated Miss Velma West, daughter of the accused man, at Mrs. Fike's boarding house.

West, it is reported, upon learning that his daughter had been impersonated, investigated, and carried one girl before Mrs. Fike, who stated she was not the one. It is stated that when Miss McCarley was taken before her, Mrs. Fike said she was the girl who had posed as Miss West.

The girl alleges that she was taken into the street and beaten. She charges that while West beat her Tearford stood guard, preventing her escape, and held his hand on his gun.



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## Fight To Rid Alabama Of Floggings By Hooded Bands Brings High Award

The highest professional award that can come to an American newspaper editor has been made to an Alabamian for his fight to rid his native state of bigotry, lawlessness, terrorism and intolerance.

Not many years ago Grover Cleveland Hall hung the hames and traces in the harness room of a farm near Haleburg down in Henry County, said goodbye to his parents, the fields and farm life, and followed his natural bent.

With only such schooling as the rural communities of that day afforded in Alabama, the young man, at the age of 17, went to Dothan to enter the journalistic profession under the tutelage of his brother, the late W. T. Hall.

There he became a printer, in the full sense of the word. He was reporter, advertising solicitor, type-setter, and on occasions, served as copy boy. Eventually he became editor of the "Daily Siftings" in Dothan.

In his early twenties the spirit of the wanderlust seized him and a few weeks later found him in Selma as managing editor of the old Selma Times. "Managing Editor" in that day meant proof-reading, reporting and editorial writing. From Selma he went to Pensacola to become editorial writer for The Pensacola Journal, where he remained until 1910.

### Comes to Advertiser

That year he came to The Montgomery Advertiser to take the chair of associate editor. Although "Grandma" was not his first love, it proved to be his most enduring one, for since the day he entered The Advertiser, Mr. Hall has called The Advertiser rooms "home."

On July 1, 1926, his years of faithful and courageous service, a majority of which were spent under the guidance of Captain William T. Sheehan, editor, were rewarded when he was made editor of The Advertiser, following the retirement of Captain Sheehan.

Came a day when the Ku Klux Klan, through a tremendous increase in numbers, became powerful and with its power sought to dethrone justice, law and order by hooded outrages upon defenseless victims in the dark hours of the night. Late in June, Jeff Calloway, an orphan of Blount County, was flogged by Klansmen.

What followed is well known to every Alabamian. The first editorial on the Calloway flogging was written by Mr. Hall on July 3 under the caption "The

Glove of the Beast—Will the State Pick it Up?"

For four months the campaign continued and floggings in Alabama ceased.

A few days ago Mr. Hall received the following formal letter of notification from Frank D. Fackenthal, secretary of Columbia University:

"I take very great pleasure in notifying you that the prize of \$500 established by the will of the late Joseph Pulitzer for the best editorial article written during the year 1927, the test of excellence being clearness of style, moral purpose, sound reasoning and power to influence public opinion in the right direction, due account being taken of the whole volume of the writer's editorial work during the year, has been awarded to your editorial against gang-ism, floggings and racial and religious intolerance, published in The Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser."

The awards were made by the trustees of the Columbia University on the recommendation of the advisory board of the School of Journalism which consists of:

President Nicholas Murray Butler, Columbia University; Melville E. Stone, The Associated Press; Ralph Pulitzer, The World; Arthur M. Howe, Brooklyn Daily Eagle; John L. Heaton, The World; Robert Lincoln O'Brien, Boston Herald; Joseph Pulitzer, St. Louis Post-Dispatch; Rollo Ogden, New York Times; Alfred Holman, San Francisco, Calif.; Casper S. Yost, St. Louis Globe-Democrat; Stuart H. Perry, Adrian (Mich.) Evening Telegram; Julian Harris, Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer Sun; Frank R. Kent, Baltimore Sun.

The advisory board in making these awards had before them the reports of the several juries designated to pass upon the competitors for the several prizes. The juries for the prizes in journalism are chosen from the staff of the School of Journalism at Columbia University and from the American Society of Newspaper Editors. The juries for the prizes in letters are chosen from the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

### No Editorial Designated

Unlike similar awards made in the past no single editorial was mentioned by the committee.

The award was "for the best editorial article written during the year, the test of excellence being clearness of style, moral purpose, sound reasoning and power to influence public opinion in the right direction, due account being taken of the whole volume of the writer's editorial work during the year."

"Awarded to Grover Cleveland Hall for his editorials in The Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala., against gang-ism, floggings and racial and religious intolerance."

Previous winners of the Pulitzer editorial prize are:

Alabama

1917—To an editorial in The New York Tribune on the first anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania.

1918—To the Louisville Courier-Journal for the editorial, "Vae Victis," by Henry Watterson.

1919—No award.

1920—To Harvey E. Newbranch, of The Omaha Evening World-Herald for an editorial entitled "Law and the Jungle."

1921—No award.

1922—To Frank M. O'Brien, editor of The New York Herald, for an editorial entitled "The Unknown Soldier."

1923—To William Allen White, editor of The Emporia (Kan.) Gazette, for an editorial entitled "To An Anxious Friend."

1924—The Boston Herald for an editorial entitled "Who Made Coolidge?"

1925—To Robert Lathan, editor of The Charlestown News and Courier, for an editorial entitled "The Flight of the South."

1926—To Edward M. Kingsbury of The New York Times for an editorial entitled "The House of a Hundred Sorrows."

1927—To Lauriston Bullard, of The Boston Herald, for an editorial on the Sacco-Vanzetti case entitled, "We Submit."

Mr. Hall is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William R. Hall, and the Hall family is among the most prominent in the newspaper fraternity in the state. His brother, the late W. T. Hall, gained wide prominence as an editor. Another brother, E. C. Hall, editor of The Alexander City Outlook, is president of the Alabama Press Association. His nephew, Julian Hall, is editor of The Dothan Eagle.

Mr. Hall is married and has one son, Grover, Jr.

## Flogging Appeals Are Postponed To October

Under agreement between the state and defense counsel, submission of appeals in the cases of Eugene Doss and Lee A. Clayton, convicted in Blount County last Spring of kidnapping and sentenced to from 8 to 10 years in prison each, in connection with the flogging of Jeff Calloway by a band of masked and hooded men, has been postponed to October.

Appeals in both cases were to have been submitted to the Alabama Court of Appeals today, but on account of the many points of law involved, attorneys for Doss and Clayton, it is stated, were unable to complete briefs to be filed and asked for further time. Under these circumstances, it was announced, the state agreed to a continuance.

The regular term of the Alabama Court of Appeals closes June 30.

## Klansmen Face 7 Indictments On Libel Count

Worthington Posts Bonds  
Totaling \$3,500 In  
Jefferson

## Associates Wanted Two Newspapermen Indicted; One Serving

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 12.—Special to The Advertiser.—William J. Worthington, real estate man and reputed former cyclops of the Avondale klavern of the Ku Klux Klan, indicted Thursday by the Jefferson County Grand Jury with Marshall B. Lewis, editor of The American Standard, and L. M. McKee, business manager of the publication, on seven charges of criminal libel, was free Thursday night under appearance bonds totaling \$3,500.

Seven bonds of \$500 each for Worthington's appearance in court to answer to the indictments were signed by J. C. Arnold and Nellie W. Thurman. Worthington and his bondsmen appeared at the sheriff's office voluntarily a few hours after the indictments were returned and announced they wanted to arrange bond.

Both Lewis and McKee were indicted on seven counts each also. Capiases had not been served on McKee Thursday night, and Chief Deputy Sheriff Gilbert said the writs could not be served upon Lewis until he completes a 90-day term on the county roads. Service on McKee is expected Friday, it was said.

Attaches of the sheriff's office said the writs for the arrest of Lewis would be turned over to the Board of Revenue, to be held until the defendant completes the term he is now serving. He will be required to post bond in the sum of \$3,500 on the new charges or be remanded to the county jail to await trial.

One of the indictments against Worthington is based on a story published in The American Standard of March 12, 1928, concerning N. C. Propst, city detective. Propst was accused in the article of seriously injuring a woman while speeding on Graymont Avenue, and then leaving the scene of the accident after drawing a gun half-way out of its scabbard twice and telling the victim that if she ever "talked" about the wreck he would lock her up.

Lewis already has served several weeks of a 90-day sentence meted out by Judge H. B. Abernathy in Municipal Court when he was convicted on a charge of libel in connection with an article appearing in The American

Standard. McKee is now under a suspended sentence of 90 days on the same charge.

Indictments were returned against the trio after the appearances before the Grand Jury of City Commission President Jimmie Jones, Commissioner John Taylor, Chief of Police Fred H. McDuff, Judge H. B. Abernathy and Victor H. Hanson, publisher of The Birmingham News and Age-Herald.

All indictments were based on articles which recently have appeared in The American Standard. The turning of the indictments was the first time Worthington has officially been named in connection with the publication.

Among the indictments returned against Worthington was one involving Mayor William A. Gunter, of Montgomery.

The indictment reads: "The Grand Jury of said county charge that within 12 months before the finding of this indictment, William J. Worthington unlawfully and maliciously published of and concerning W. A. Gunter, the following libelous matter, to-wit: 'Upright Sheriff; Low-Down Mayor.'

"Recently in Selma, Ala., it is reported to The American Standard, that at the opening ball given by a party of people from Montgomery, one of whom was Bill Gunter, mayor, had a bottle of whisky passing it around in plain view. The new sheriff of Dallas County, R. N. Hamner, appeared at the same, explaining to a member of the party that he would have to take him under arrest for violating the prohibition law, whereupon Bill Gunter, mayor of Montgomery, and personal friend of Victor Hanson, and candidate for delegate-at-large from the State of Alabama to the National Democratic Convention, said, 'You do not know who I am, do you?' The sheriff, Mr. Hamner, remarked, 'no, I do not.' Bill Gunter said, 'I am Bill Gunter, mayor of Montgomery, and the little thing does not matter.' Sheriff Hamner replied, 'Why there are ladies looking on at this conduct.' Bill Gunter replied, 'the ladies do not mind, my wife is accustomed to this.' Sheriff Hamner said, 'Possibly your wife is accustomed to this behavior, but my wife is not.' And it is reported to The American Standard that the man was placed under arrest. We did not follow the case to see what the fine imposed was."

"The point we are making is that the official whose duty it is to enforce the law in Montgomery, goes into any other city and openly violates the law, although he has sworn to uphold the Constitution, therefore we say that the mayor is low down, if these reports are true, because any man who will tell a lie is bad enough, and when he will swear a lie he certainly is low down."

"Which said libelous matter had a tendency to provoke a breach of the peace, against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama."

The indictment was signed by Jim Davis, county solicitor.



## Flogging Case Appeals Are To Be Submitted To Appellate Court Friday

Appeals in the cases of Eugene Doss and Lee Clayton, who were convicted in Blount County of kidnapping and sentenced to from eight to ten years in prison each, in connection with the flogging of Jeff Calloway, by a band of masked and robed men, were perfected yesterday and will be submitted to the Alabama Court of Appeals, Friday.

Doss and Clayton, who at the time the flogging occurred, were alleged to be members of the Tarrant City Klavern of the Ku Klux Klan, took appeals from the judgment of the trial court immediately after their conviction and sentence. A number of other defendants in the same case drew fines and hard labor terms.

### PEDDLING A FALSEHOOD

The Ku Klux Klan of Alabama, which once included a Floggers's Auxiliary, which of late has been strangely inactive, is distributing a circular in Alabama, in behalf of the Republican ticket, in which the flat statement is made that "Al Smith has agreed to appoint to his cabinet, if elected President, Frederick Morton, Negro Civil Service Commissioner of New York."

This is, of course, a falsehood without any basis of any kind.

Gov. Smith has said that he has made no promises to appoint any man to office and will make none. The Klan has merely nominated Morton for a cabinet post solely for the purpose of inflaming ignorant persons against the Democratic Presidential nominee and his running mate, hoping thereby to induce Klan dupes to give the big-wigs in the Klan money. The anonymous circular is distributed in the same envelope containing a passionate appeal for campaign contributions for the aid of "our most noble and Divinely inspired cause." The shake-down circular is signed, "Realm Finance Committee."

The dupes not only are expected to believe another lie about Smith, but are expected also to believe that the Klan big-wigs are in need of campaign funds in addition to the regular dues. And, we have no doubt, that any man who would believe the lie would also blindly give money to the Klan finance committee—and without in due time demanding an audit to see whether the money was spent for the "noble cause" or to stuff the pockets of the cynic-adventurers who are operating the Klan for what they can get out of it.

When will Mr. Hoover take note of the bad campaign methods of his allies and are rapidly compromising him before the people of this country?



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# Universal Edict Issued By Dr. Evans

## Barring Of Hood Matter Of Time; Kluxers To Make First Move

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Jan. 21.—Special to The Advertiser.—The mask of the Ku Klux Klan will be discarded Feb. 22. The secret order which has assiduously held to secret membership and anonymity, making its grotesque robe and visor features of its ritual, plans to come into daylight on Washington's birthday.

This information comes on authority believed reliable, although not officially confirmed.

The momentous action in the life of the Klan, an order started some 12 years ago by William J. Simmons, in Atlanta, was taken at Montgomery last week upon the occasion of the official visit to this state of Dr. Hiram Wesley Evans, imperial wizard.

Dr. Evans was in Montgomery ostensibly to administer the K-trio degree to about 1,200 klansmen, among whom were a dozen or so great titans, exalted Cyclops, Klaliffs, Kludds, Kleagles, etc.

Reports state that the announcement was first made by James Esdale, of Birmingham, grand dragon of the Alabama Klan, who spoke eloquently in favor of the plan to discard the visor.

It is said the order will be universally promulgated and every unit of the Klan will be required to banish the mask within a month.

The Klan comes into the open for two reasons, according to reports of the Montgomery meeting:

### Opposed To Mask

First—there are many persons within the Klan and many others on the outside who are violently opposed to the hidden face.

Second—States, municipalities and divisions of the country are outlawing the mask by legislation. To forestall universal legislation against the visor, Klan officials deemed it wise to act at this time.

Dr. Evans is declared to have told his fellow klansmen that there are many good Protestants who cannot stomach the mask and will not come into the order until it is permanently and officially discarded. He foresaw, also, elimination of the visor by law and he wanted to beat legislators to it in those states where action had not been taken. He

spoke after Grand Dragon Esdale had made the initial announcement and issued pronouncement. The grand dragon is declared to have said it was but a matter of time until Klan enemies would succeed in banishing the mask by law, and that he wished to get ahead of these persons. He added, the report said, that many Protestants would join the order when the visor was discarded.

Dr. Evans discussed the recent school bond election, reports declare. He was not discouraged because the Alabama Klan lost in that fight. He declared the Klan is not dead; that the loss of the election meant nothing. He is said to have upbraided the Alabama Klan for getting on the wrong side of the question. The Klan should have taken the side of the opposition, he suggested, and then it could have claimed credit for defeating the bond proposal.

### Told Of Deficiencies

The imperial wizard is said to have told Alabama klansmen in plain language some of their deficiencies as craftsmen of the order. The leaders were lashed with the suggestion that they were not able to control the rank and file within the ranks. They were told they allowed personal ambition to come before the safety of the Klan; that splits within the ranks allowed anti-klansmen to be elected to office.

That Dr. Evans should make announcement of the banishment of the mask within the realm of Alabama is considered very significant. Lately the limelight of national publicity has been focused upon this commonwealth. The Jeff Calloway flogging case at Oneonta which resulted in the conviction of several klansmen and subsequent efforts of Attorney General Charlie McCall to ruin to cover other floggers, had brought the Alabama Klan into the calcium rays which had brought forth much comment at home and abroad.

First reports had it that Dr. Evans' visit to Alabama was for the purpose of straightening out alleged tangles in the secret order, but action of the Montgomery pow-wow is believed to have forestalled any general shake-up. Banishment of the mask is said to have been looked upon by officials as a step which might placate everybody within the Klan and please a lot of people outside the order.

### Pay \$1 Per Head

Those who receive the K-trio degree—and incidentally heard the momentous announcement of the wizard—are said to have paid \$1 per head. The meeting was declared to have been harmonious.

Another announcement by Dr. Evans, reported at the Montgomery meeting, is said to have aroused much interest. It was to the effect that he would officially banish any member who supported Gov. Alfred E. Smith.

With James Esdale, grand dragon of Alabama, in the chair, the regular meeting of Klan No. 3, Montgomery, is said to have been held at 8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 19, in the Klan klavern. Klansmen were told they were to fill in cards handed them as they entered the elevator, attach one dollar as an initiation fee and turn it in, following which the imperial wizard, Hiram Evans, would initiate them into the K-trio degree—the third degree concocted since the Klan's organization. After ordering payment of one dollar, klansmen were told to notice that there was no expense of the imperial wizard for putting on the degree, it was said.

Following these instructions, the "night

hawk" was ordered to take up cards and money. After careful check of the money and cards, imperial wizard is said to have been called upon to administer the K-trio degree. It was stated that 1,200 members were present and had paid their dollar.

### Orders Kludd To Station

Wizard Evans ordered the Kludd to his station, directed the Kludd to act as captain and called the group of Klavalliers to act as "guards," each armed with trusty sword, it was reported. Two guards were to stand to the east, two to the south and two to the north. There were none to the west. The captain of guards was then instructed to escort imperial Klaliff Kyle Ramsey to the "sacred altar" to prepare for the initiation ceremony. This the captain escorted the Kludd to the altar. There the Kludd bowed low and dropped Bible to the altar, retreating immediately to position to the south. Ramsey the imperial Klaliff, marched to the side of Wizard Evans.

When the noise of moving feet had again faded, the captain of guards marched Wizard Evans to the altar. The wizard draped a flag at the altar, commenting on solemnity of the occasion. He then marched back to his original position, beside Ramsey.

Esdale, it was said, was next to take the altar march. His contribution was a copy of the United States Constitution. He then followed wizards footsteps to position beside him. Prayer from little booklet called the new "Kloran" was read by the Kludd. The booklet was just wet off press and must not fall into the hands of anyone save the exalted cyclops of each Klan, members were told. The exalted cyclops was instructed to keep all four of the little booklets, the number allotted him, forever in his sight.

### Opening Move

Two Klansmen, their faces fully masked and their flowing gowns twisting about their ankles, were marched to the imperial wizard as the opening move in the initiation into the "K-trio."

Though each had signed little cards and contributed his dollar, they were asked if they wanted to take the degree. Each answered vigorously in affirmative. Whereupon, one was handed the Kloran.

The booklet, it is said, told him he must say his mother was born of Catholic parents, that she went to the public schools, that she also attended the Catholic Church and, please, would that make any difference.

The Kludd at the command of the imperial wizard, read from the little booklet a statement to the effect that this Klansman, born of Catholic and being such an enemy could never be admitted to the ranks of K-trio.

Wizard Evans intervened at this point, pleading that the man's intentions were right, and, as he had attended a Protestant Church and public schools, should be admitted.

The Kludd acquiesced with a bow and the two hooded figures were marched to the altar where the oath was given. Other members present took the oath in unison.

After a final "amen" to the oath, the grand dragon is said to have again taken the chair, introducing several visiting exalted cyclops.

### To Be Staged All Over State

Then followed the statement that K-trio would be staged all over the state on Washington's birthday, Feb. 22, it was announced further at this time that

on the same date, Washington's birthday, the mask would be taken away from Klansmen everywhere. It was explained that the mask was taken away because lawful barring of the mask by the people was only a matter of time and that Klansmen wished to make that move first. It was stated further at this point that plenty of good Protestants, with their money, would be joining the organization when they knew there weren't any masks around.

Wizard Evans is said to have followed with an address that continued for some time. In his speech he is said to have raised the United States for its Democratic form of government and declared he would banish any Klansmen who dared vote for Al Smith for president. He also took occasion to flay Charlie McCall, the attorney general and expressed happiness and pride over the outcome of trials and acquittal of men in Luverne on flogging charges.

Wizard Evans is said to have admitted it was rather autocratic to banish all who voted for Al Smith, but he explained that the Klan was fighting mighty hard just to exist and that Al might revoke the Klan charter in the United States.

Wizard Evans is quoted as saying he was mighty sorry for Al Smith because Al was going to be beaten so badly for the Democratic nomination that he wouldn't even be able to run for dog catcher in New York and be elected.

### Proud Of Luverne Trials

In stating how proud he was of Luverne trials, Wizard Evans declared that, though he was "raised" in Texas, he was born in Southeast Alabama. He stated he would have come quickly had his presence been needed in the trials but that his "wheel horse" handled things admirably.

He said that he told some Klansmen in Birmingham, who were very dejected and thought the Klan dead because it had lost the bond issue that the Klan was not dead, no matter what it lost.

He told them they should have had vision enough to take the other side of the bond issue. Had they done that, he told them, they would have gotten all the credit for beating the thing. He said he could have told them that if he had been here.

He told them they should hold primaries in their Klaverns and there pick the strongest man in the field, thus getting credit for many political victories and much political power. If another man, who is a Klansman, enters the field against the one they have picked, they should banish him immediately, he told them. In that way he would help split the anti-Klan vote, he pointed out.

Wizard Evans admitted there were many good Protestants who would be members, only they could not "stomach" the mask. He stated also by way of repetition, that every state in the Union was bound, sooner or later, to pass laws ousting the mask. He said that he wanted the order to be received just the same as the Masonic Order, but that the membership would remain secret. By this means they would always remain in the political saddle, he told them.

# Klan Will Pick Delegates Soon

## Plans To Placate Anti-Saloon League Forces.

By ATTICUS MULLIN

Klan leaders of Alabama will get together in the very near future, probably in Montgomery, so a well authenticated rumor says, to pick out a slate for delegates to the Democratic national convention. The conference will select district and at-large delegates, according to current gossip.

It is generally understood that the plan will be to select men who will cast Alabama's vote for Sen. Heflin of Alabama for the nomination, and in no event will those selected ever cast a single ballot for Al Smith. It is the general gossip that those selected will be klansmen first and prohibitionists second. The Klan plan, says, is to placate the Anti-Saloon League and the W. C. T. U. with men who are known to be bitter end dries in the hope that they can gain this support in a campaign which will be pitched specifically against the nomination of Al Smith. It is understood that the Klan leaders have reached the conclusion that a victory in the campaign for delegates will do much to resuscitate the waning Klan in Alabama.

It is said to be the hope of the Klan that it can remain in the background after it selects its slate for delegates and let the prohibitionists take charge of the campaign, put over the Klan candidates under the guise of prohibitionists and then claim a straight out Klan victory.

While the Klan in Alabama is made up in the main of Democrats, there are a number of Republicans in the order, so it is said, and it is hoped to increase the Klan membership by Republican recruits by a fight on Smith whom the Republicans dread as a Democratic candidate.

It is reported in Montgomery that Grand Dragon Esdale, Gov. Graves and other prominent klansmen will take a leading part in the selection of a slate of delegates to run in the May primary under the guise of prohibitionists.



# Ku Klux Klan Doomed After Being Forced To Doff Masks, Legislators Say

Three members of Montgomery County's delegation to the House of Representatives, which in the past Legislature voted for an order which would have banned the public use of the mask in Alabama find in the voluntary decision of the Ku Klux Klan to discard the mask an admission by the order of its illegitimate nature, upon which their pleas for outlawing it in the Legislature were based and a tacit confession that the organization is disintegrating.

Tyler Goodwyn, of the Montgomery County delegation, stated:

"Fine. Mystery thrives under the hood. Draw the hood and there is no mystery. Destroy the mystery and there is no klan. Even the doughty knights themselves will gaze in disgust at the crass features of the klan silhouette outlined beneath the lifted hood. No hood no klan. A crumbling column in the Pagoda of Intolerance."

T. E. Martin stated:

"The outlawry of the mask was inevitable. The klan by voluntarily discarding it only escaped the compulsion which would have attended its abandonment under a Legislative act. And by doing so they tacitly confessed that its use from the beginning was not in ac-

cord with the principles under which we live and are governed, and that hidden under it they could not continue as a consequential political organization. The mask made the klan and the abandonment of it brings it to its end."

Lou Sanderson stated:

"The use of the mask was not consonant with the principles of liberty and freedom upon which our government is founded. All men walking abroad upon the streets and highways have an inalienable right to look on the faces of the men he meets. The use of the mask was not consistent with any lawful business. Serving no useful purpose it could only act as a shield for outlawry and intolerance. The opinion of all law-abiding people demanded that the mask should pass."

The anti-masking bill, which would have made any offense committed while in mask a felony, and its public use a misdemeanor, was defeated in the House of Representatives by a vote of 50 to 42, after one of the most heated battles in Alabama's legislative history. Another bill which made the commission of an offense while masked a felony but which did not prohibit its public use was passed by both House and Senate.

## THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE KLAN

The apparently authentic report that Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans has issued an edict for members of the Ku Klux Klan everywhere to discard their masks on Feb. 22—Washington's birthday—will be taken by people throughout the United States as evidence of the disintegration of the order. Everywhere, we venture to say, it will be seen as the beginning of the end of the Klan.

That the Klan was crumbling has been obvious for some time. Its sinister character has been revealed in so many States, and its connection with crime, corruption and scandal has been exposed so fully, that the evil of it could no longer be doubted by the great body of American people who love decency and fair play. As a result, the Klan has come into general disrepute. It has been so thoroughly discredited in the eyes of the public that it could no longer hope to grow by acquiring new members. Some few new members it might have taken in here and there during the recent months in which it has been more severely under fire than ever before. But certainly not many men are going to join an organization which has been so strongly linked up with flogging outrages in Alabama, Georgia and other States; with political corruption in Indiana; with mob disorders, brutality, even lynchings, in Pennsylvania and elsewhere; and with intolerance and bigotry wherever it exists.

Thus the Klan has been finding it more

and more difficult to obtain new members. This is admitted in the press reports of Imperial Wizard Evans's order for the removal of the mask. And not only were new members joining the order in fewer and fewer numbers; old members, having a regard for decency, disgusted with the order and ashamed of their connection with it, have been dropping out in increasing numbers. This is also tacitly admitted in the reported remarks of the Imperial Wizard.

There have been many small indications of the growing weakness of the Klan. Last week, for instance, a suit was filed in Birmingham for the collection of nearly \$3,000 in back rent owed by the Klan on its hall in that city. This indicates that the Klan is in financial straits in its greatest stronghold in Alabama. It is in financial straits because new members, at so many dollars a head, have not been forthcoming, and because the dropping out of old members has decreased the amount of dues collected.

Now the Klan proposes to discard the mask, thinking thereby to regain some of its lost strength. As the Imperial Wizard is reported to have said, the Klan has been "fighting mighty hard just to exist." The Klan has been under heavy fire because of the mask. Much of the criticism directed against it has been based on that. Klan officials, one gathers from the press reports, believe that with the mask removed many will be attracted to the order who

otherwise would not join. It is revealed also that there is much opposition to the mask within the order.

Finally, the mask is to be removed, it is said, because Klan officials realize that it would be only a matter of time before legislation in the various States would compel the members to unmask.

But the publication of the details of the meeting at which the order to unmask was given shows the Klan in such a light, we believe, that "good Protestants"—whom the Klan fondly hopes to enlist now that the masks are removed—will continue to stay out of the order. The report of the meeting reveals the Klan as admittedly a political organization. That it has been a political organization all along, of course, is well known. But all along the Klan has pretended to exist for other purposes. It is now revealed as an organization existing solely for political purposes, and admittedly so. As such, we do not believe very many new members will be attracted to it. Americans do not like to be told for whom they can vote and for whom they must not vote for political office, whatever their inclinations may be.

The chief aim of the Klan now is to prevent the nomination and election of Alfred E. Smith to the Presidency. On the strength of its opposition to Gov. Smith it hopes to attract new members, and more money—for the Klan is primarily a money-making organization. But men who are opposed to Gov. Smith will realize that it is not necessary to join the Klan in order to vote against him, and many will not let their opposition to him lead them into membership in the order on that ground only, in view of the disrepute into which the Klan has fallen. Moreover, many persons will resent the autocracy of the Klan, even if they are opposed to Gov. Smith.

Finally, it is our opinion that the Klan is too far gone to revive its strength very appreciably, even with the mask discarded. After the election next November, we venture to predict, the Klan will come to a hasty dissolution, as a national organization, at any rate.



Ku Klux Klan - 1928

Canada

**KLAN ORGANIZER  
ORDERED TO LEAVE  
CANADIAN STATE**

Ottawa, Ont., July 16.—(P)—The Citizen today said that James Henry Hawkins, organizer of the Ku Klux Klan in Saskatchewan, must leave Canada by July 20 or he will be deported.

A board of inquiry at Saskatoon ordered his deportation on the ground that he entered Canada as a non-immigrant and remained without "reporting for landing," the newspaper said.

Ku Klux Klan - 1928

**Kuban Ku Klux Klan  
Suspends Activities**

HAVANA, Oct. 27.—(P)—The Caballeros Ku Klux Klan de Cuba, the Cuban equivalent of the Ku Klux Klan, has virtually suspended operations because of strict police surveillance and widespread popular disapproval. The organization was recently formed in Camaguey for the purpose of furthering certain nationalist and racial aims. It is expected that the society will be dissolved.

Cuba.



Ku Klux Klan - 1928

# Official Admits Reports Of Klan Mask Abolished

## Organization To Take Active Part In Coming Presidential Campaign

## Helmet Will Stay

## Says Move Signifies Abolition Of Secrecy.

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA., Jan. 25.—(AP)—General unmasking of the Ku Klux Klan, Feb. 22, will follow conferment of the K-trio or third degree upon all members of the order, an action provided for by the constitution six years ago in Atlanta and will signalize the abolition of secrecy in membership of the Klan, Dr. W. A. Hotalen, imperial lecturer and Klan evangelist from Birmingham, Ala., said in a 1,000-word statement here today. He told reporters he was authorized to make official statements for the Klan.

The statement denied reports that the robe and helmet would be abolished and declared emphatically that the unmasking did not result from any anticipated anti-masking legislation or recent agitation in Alabama, Georgia, Indiana or Pennsylvania.

### To Enter Campaign

Answering specific questions Dr. Hotalen said in effect that the Klan's policy will be opposed to demonstrations and parades, although such action might be taken by members on occasion, but marchers will be unmasked. He declared ignorance of any threat by Dr. Hiram W. Evans, that members voting for Al Smith for president would be dismissed, characterizing such reports as "the invention of some unscrupulous reporters."

"You can bet your immortal soul it will," the statement answered to the query: "Will the Klan take an active part in the campaign against Al Smith for president," declaring Smith's "Romanism and not his Catholicism" was reason for this action.

Dr. Hotalen said Sen. Thomas J. Heflin, of Alabama, was not an official of the Klan nor in its employ and insofar as he knew, not even a member of the order, further declaring that the Klan

did not intend to nominate Heflin for president or to nominate any other individual for this office.

"The Klan does not favor the third party idea," he said.

Dr. Hotalen's statement said that on Jan. 8 and 9, the imperial klonecillum, the whole college of grand dragons and all imperial representatives of the invisible empire met in Chicago and received the K-trio or third and unmasking degree. Five hundred Klansmen received this degree in Chicago Jan. 9 and on Jan. 10, in Montgomery, Ala., 1500 were recipients of the degree, he said.

### Dispatches Erring

"Press dispatches reporting the Montgomery ceremony and conjectures of most of the editorial writers who have since commented thereon, have been very much in error," he said. "The news dispatches state that the announcement of the unmasking of the Klan 'came as a thunderbolt' and 'burst like a bombshell' upon the unsuspecting Klansmen gathered in Montgomery. That statement is untrue," he continued, pointing out that the unmasking was anticipated by Klansmen and that all local Klans had received announcements of the approaching action."

Dr. Hotalen is attached to the realm of Alabama Klan and is said to have taken an active part in the organization work of the Klan since he became a member in 1919.

### THE KLAN IN FLORIDA

In the counte survey of the political strength of the Ku Klux Klan published in last Sunday's New York Times, which we reviewed in these columns two days ago, it was said that in all but three States the order had decreased in membership and influence since 1924. The three States where the Klan is reported not to have lost strength are Virginia, Oklahoma and Florida.

In Virginia, where the Klan has never been strong, its present strength is said to be about the same as in 1924. In Oklahoma a revival in strength between now and the time of the Democratic National Convention is predicted. In Florida it is reported to be stronger than it was four years ago.

Two or three days ago, I. E. Phillips, head of the Klan in Florida, was quoted in an Associated Press dispatch from Jacksonville as saying that the Klan did not intend to unmask in Florida or any other State, notwithstanding the recent announcement that members of the order would discard the mask on Feb. 22. According to the dispatch, Phillips said officials of the Klan had advised him to that effect, and added that announcements of the abandonment of the mask, recently made by persons "apparently representing themselves as spokesmen for the organization," were made by enemies of the order.

The report that the Klan intends to dis-

card the mask has been confirmed by officials and members of the order, and is generally accepted as authentic. Reports from various States in the survey made by The Times indicates that the unmasking order will go into effect generally. If the Klan in Florida does not unmask, it is likely to be the only State organization failing to abide by the decree. What its status will be, in that event, is a question. But perhaps the national organization will find a way to force the Florida Klan to unmask, if the rest of the State organizations do.

The statement by the head of the Florida Klan, coming on the heels of the reported increase in membership in that State, would seem to indicate that the order is strong in Florida.

But one of the outstanding newspapers in Florida, The Tampa Tribune, denies that this is so. Commenting on the survey made by The Times, The Tribune says the Florida report, which came from Jacksonville, is "distinct among the reports received from other points, in that it alone makes claims of a considerable growth of the Klan in the State." The Jacksonville correspondent informed The Times that the Klan in Florida boasted of a 45 to 50 per cent increase and that it controlled 80,000 votes in the State.

"The dispatch from Jacksonville evidently originated from Klan sources or at least sources favorable to the Klan," says the Tampa paper. "We do not believe that the Klan controls now or ever has controlled 80,000 votes in Florida. We doubt if it controls 8,000 votes. As for a '45 to 50 per cent increase' in Klan strength in this State, that is palpable rot."

Commenting on the statement by the head of the Klan in Florida as to the abandonment of the mask, The Tribune says: "Perhaps the Florida Klan expects to maintain an existence distinct from that of other States and to ignore 'general orders'."

We are inclined to take The Tribune's estimate of the condition of the Klan in Florida over that contained in The Times's survey, since the Tampa paper should be in better position to know whereof it speaks than the Jacksonville informant of the New York paper, and since The Tribune says that reports from other points in Florida make no such claims of increase in strength. Perhaps The Tribune is right in its surmise that The Jacksonville report originated from Klan sources or sources favorable to the order.

We would feel gratified if The Tribune's estimate were shown to be correct, for then it could be said of the Southern

States that in none of them has the Klan grown in strength, and that in only one had it held its own since 1924. And that one, Virginia, as we have said, has never been a Klan stronghold. As for Oklahoma, there is only a prediction that the Klan will revive its strength between now and the time of the Democratic convention. It would not surprise us to see that prediction fail to materialize. It is obviously based on the assumption that Gov. Smith's candidacy will serve to swell the Klan ranks, and since in every other State no such thing is happening, the Oklahoma Klan is likely to disintegrate along with the other State organizations.

The Klan can certainly have little to boast of if, during a year when a member of the Roman Catholic Church is the outstanding candidate for the Democratic nomination, it cannot attract members, but is steadily losing strength instead. Since Gov. Smith's nomination seems to be a foregone conclusion, mid-Summer should see the Klan struggling for existence. And in the event of Gov. Smith's election to the Presidency in November, Jan. 1, 1929, should see the Klan breathing its last as a national organization, and probably even as a local organization in most sections of the country.

The Klan, once a "going concern," is now steadily going in another direction, and bids fair soon to be gone.



Ku Klux Klan - 1928.

General.

## Klan Officially Orders Unmasking

Official statement by the Ku Klux Klan as to the Knights of the Great Forest, its new degree. This article has been copyrighted by the Ku Klux Klan and any paper is authorized to publish all or part of the following text:

The Ku Klux Klan is no longer a "masked Order." At a simultaneous ceremony last night in every Klavern throughout the nation, myriads of Klansmen foreswore the mask and made it clear that the Order had no political ambition for itself or for its members.

In the main there is to be no change from the ordinary customs of the Klan. The action taken last night is simply an official recognition of a change that has been sweeping over the Klan for the last few years, and the action of last night simply confirms this change. The ceremonies of last evening marked a new era in Klanscraft, and are a part of its preparation for new and larger activities in our national life.

The official announcement of the changes are based on the following proclamation by Dr. H. W. Evans, head of the order:

"By virtue of the power and authority in me vested as Emperor and Imperial Wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux

Klan and in performance of the solemn duty assigned to me by its constitution and laws, I do hereby proclaim the following: Edict

"That on and after midnight of Feb. 22, Year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-eight no mask or visor shall be upon the helmet of the regalia of any Klansman; it shall thereafter be unlawful for any Klansman to wear any mask or visor as part of his regalia and each Klansman who shall be unavoidably absent from the meeting of a Klan to be held throughout the Invisible Empire on the Twenty-Second day of February, shall as soon thereafter as possible, attend a regular meeting of a Klan, and there become a member of the Knights of the Great Forest.

"That on and after the said date all Klansmen are forbidden to fraternize with, or remain in Klannish fidelity to, any who shall thereafter wear upon his helmet a mask or visor."

It is well known that a change in the Klan has been going on for two or three years; that there has been inside the order a gradually increasing sentiment toward unmasking, so that eventually it became but a question of "When and How" it should be done. The particular date chosen for conferring the new degree has great patriotic significance.

The reason given by Dr. Evans for the changes in the Klan are that it has completed the first phases of its work, and is preparing to enter upon the second. He pointed out that the first great task of the order was to promote

100 per cent Americanism by stopping unrestricted immigration. This policy of the Klan has been adopted and made a part of our national policy, and the man who would today try to change it would indeed be simple. The second phase of the Klans' work calls for an intensive effort to promote the assimilation of those aliens now in America, for the sturdy support of our constitution and laws and the inculcation throughout America of the wholesome patriotism based upon the great fundamentals of Americanism as established in the foundation of the Republic; to produce homogeneity and a happy understanding of each other by the people upon the firm foundation of American principles will continuously engage the attention of the Klan for the next few years.

## United States Supreme Court Rips the Mask From The Ku Klux Klan

The Ku Klux Klan is now officially branded as a scurvy gang. The highest legal authority in the land, the Supreme Court of the United States, finds and asserts that this disreputable masked body is "conducting a crusade against Catholics, Jews, and Negroes and stimulating hurtful religious and race prejudices; striving for political power and assuming a sort of guardianship over the administration of local, state and national affairs; and at times taking into its own hands the punishment of what some of its members conceived to be crimes."

Eight years ago the ENQUIRER-SUN, one of the first daily newspapers in the South to attempt to tear the mask from this cowardly and unAmerican organization, asserted precisely what the United States Supreme Court declares to be true. The charges of the ENQUIRER-SUN were constantly and continually denied by the heads of the robed gang and their satellites. The cunning and cowardly E. V. Clarke, the stupid Shamons, and the crafty Evans, the murderous Stephenson, and the miserable Upshaw all denied the truth of the charges now made by the Supreme Court.

Indeed, in the early days of the ENQUIRER-SUN's fight against the masked marauders, a number of newspapers, now anti-Klan, took us to task and asserted that the Klan's "principles" were sound, and that men high in state and church were members of the organization. And the Klan was defended as an institution "100 per cent American."

To this the ENQUIRER-SUN replied at the time, and now reiterates its statement, that if any man high in church or state, was a member of the masked gang, he was far lower than the poor devil without influence or just out of the penitentiary,

who joined the sheeted order. It is to be hoped that all former members—and present members—of the Ku Klux Klan, whether "high in church or state", have read the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The charges made against the Klan by the Supreme Court may be news to some persons, but to the ENQUIRER-SUN it is merely the reiteration of ancient facts. And in view of the indictment of the Klan by the Supreme Court of the United States, it behooves the masked gang to obey the orders of its leaders and appear in force in Washington on March fourth.

The Klan claims the credit for the election of Herbert Hoover. The accuracy of this claim may be questioned, but it is true that the spirit of intolerance and bigotry and vile unAmericanism fostered and spread by the masked gang was a potential factor in the defeat of Democracy's great leader, who happens also to be a Catholic.

# U. S. BILL FOR CURB ON KLAN

## Federal Jurisdiction is Proposed to the Unlawful Acts Committed by K. K. Members

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Federal jurisdiction to punish unlawful acts by the Ku Klux Klan is proposed in a bill introduced in the House Thursday by Representative Victor Berger, Socialist member from Milwaukee.

The bill would provide that it shall be a federal offense punishable in federal courts for "any two or more persons to go in disguise upon public highways," or to conspire to intimidate others "in the free exercise of their rights." It would authorize the president to use the army and navy forces, if necessary, to exercise the judicial process. Penalties provided are a fine of \$5,000 or two years imprisonment, or both.

Reenact Particulars

"My bill proposes to reenact in several important particulars the acts passed in 1870 and 1871 against the Klan at that time," Congressman Berger said in a statement explaining his bill.

"The recent campaign has shown how deeply-rooted race and religious prejudice has become, and the danger of permitting organizations which fan the flames of intolerance to continue to function. Issue of tremendous importance were completely disregarded, while the religious question became dominant. Not the rapid concentration of wealth, which permits a few to dictate how the rest shall live, nor the dangerous imperialism upon which the administration has embarked, nor the fact that between 10,000,000 and 12,000,000 workers are constantly on the verge of starvation in a land of plenty, nor the fact that valuable national resources are being bartered away for a song mattered much. The Solid South, unmoved by the tremendous industrial and economic changes since the Civil War, moved only when religion was invoked.

### Danger of Klan

The United States Supreme Court recently called attention again to the danger of the Klan. It pointed out that the Klan was a revival of the earlier Klan with additional features borrowed from the Know Nothing and A. P. A. orders of other days, that it was conducting a crusade against Catholics, Jews, Negroes and stimulating hurtful religious and race prejudices; and that it took into its own hands the punishment of what some of its members conceived to be crimes.

"My bill places the forces of the federal government at the command of those who are entitled to protection in the exercise of their constitutional and civil liberties, whether they be native born or foreign born, whether they be white or Negro, and whether they be Catholic or Protestant. It proposes to remove a serious menace to the future welfare of our country."



# Klan's Unmasking Accepted as Evidence That Gang's Death Throes Have Begun

## IF THEY UNMASK

(From Charleston News and Courier)

The removal of the mask would take the potentiality of crime-doing out of the "klan". As long as the "klan" wears hoods, other men may wear hoods and flog. No one can tell a body of hooded "klansmen" from a band of hooded burglars or doggers, for masks make all men look alike.

Hooded orders are impossible; if the unmasking shall not be carried out now, it will be later. It will be a bad stroke of luck for bootleggers who, in the mask, were to be permitted as a mask of respectability, some time or other would have the wit to take advantage of it.

The so-called Ku Klux Klan without hoods will be a secret political society—much the same as the "A. P. A." of the nineties was. The unhooding may give it transient popularity and strength, but secret political societies have no rightful place in American democracy. Dozens of them have been born and have died in this country in the last century and a half. They do not live long. If they did, this democratic republic of ours would not live long.

## GOING DOWN!

(From Birmingham Age-Herald.)

If confirmation was needed, it is apparently now to be had for the announcement made last Sunday by the News-Age-Herald that the Ku Klux Klan is to divest itself of the mask and robe throughout the country. A Missouri grand dragon declares that this is a decision of national scope reached at a meeting in Chicago.

This is tantamount to a declaration that the klan is to be avowedly a political organization, and statements credited to one "Windy" Reaves, of the local mystic hierarchy, seem to bear out this interpretation. His references to what candidates for public office will be required to do in order to win the favor of the brethren, while not intended for alien ears, are proof sufficient of the direction which things are taking and will take within the klaverns of the land.

It is interesting to know that attendance upon klan meetings is to be stimulated by chances upon automobiles, the cost of which will be borne by officeseekers. And it is even more interesting to know that the K-Trio, the third degree, which so exalted Mr. Reaves, must be taken by every klansman at one dollar per head, willy-nilly. Something has gone awry if knights cannot be drawn to their gatherings except when lured by a

raffling scheme. Something has certainly happened to the treasury of the Klan, if so cheap and so arbitrary a device as the one-dollar third degree is made a part of the fundamental law of the fraternity.

If the Age-Herald were not acquainted with what has happened to similar politico-religious movements, it would find in the parlous plight of the klan, so unescapably revealed in so many ways, an indication of hard and harder times ahead.

## KLAN BANISHES MASK

(From Albany, Ga., Herald.)

Ku Klux Klan units everywhere will be required to banish the mask within a month after February 22, on which date an order will be promulgated discarding the hood from the regular regalia of the order, according to a statement issued yesterday from Birmingham.

Thus will pass the chief cause for criticism of an order that has been the subject of more bitter attacks than perhaps any other that has ever been organized on American soil. There are other things connected with the organization that have drawn the withering fire of its critics, but the mask offered the most vulnerable point of attack. For the mask is an inexcusable and indefensible appurtenance of the order. Whether in other respects the Klan may be worthy of praise or of condemnation, there is no fair-minded man who can find a reasonable basis for the existence of the hood as a part of its regular regalia. The hood—the hidden face—is a thing without a single redeeming feature. The mask is the distinguishing badge of an outlaw, of a bandit, of an assassin. The only possible place where there could be an excuse for its use is a masked ball, or a festival occasion where there is no opportunity for such use to be converted to evil purposes.

The idea on which the mask was introduced into the Klan was a wholly mistaken one. It was based on the false premise that the Klan could be used as an instrument of good through secrecy and through the fear that the hidden face would inspire in evil-doers. The result was that evil-doers themselves were given an unprecedented and unexampled opportunity to take the hood into their own hands, and ever since have wrought untold evil through its instrumentality. Whether or not the Klan was directly or indirectly responsible for these unspeakable atrocities is immaterial. Had the Klan never adopted the mask as its outstanding regalia characteristic, these, these rapings of the law, never would have disgraced the communities in

which they were perpetrated.

The Birmingham dispatch says two reasons are given for the Klan's action in discarding the hood, which was decided on at a meeting in Montgomery week before last, between Dr. Hiram W. Evans, of Atlanta, imperial wizard of the order, and high state officials of the Alabama realm. These two reasons are:

"First, there are many persons within the Klan and many others on the outside who are violently opposed to the hidden face.

"Second, states, municipalities and divisions of the country are outlawing the mask by legislation. To forestall universal legislation against the visor the Klan officials deem it wise to act at this time."

The two reasons are sufficient to ban the mask, all right, but there are many even stronger ones that could have been found. But, no matter what the reasons advanced for the action may be, the fact that the mask finally will be banished by the Klan is a matter of congratulation and commendation. It never should have been adopted as an article of regalia. It is the mask that is primarily responsible for the existence of a condition in Alabama, as well as in many other states, that called forth the public resignation from the order of Attorney General Charlie C. McCall, after his investigation of hooded whippings in that state, and his statement that the Klan "was the greatest menace to constituted authority within the state".

There will be none to weep at the passing of the mask, save those whose evil purposes are thwarted thereby.

## THE KLAN SURRENDERS

(From Chattanooga Times.)

The Ku-Klux Klan will shortly abandon the mask, according to reports from Montgomery, Ala., where the information is said to have been given to members of the organization by James Esdale, grand dragon of the klan in Alabama. The Birmingham News quotes the official's announcement as saying that on Washington's birthday, Feb. 22, "the mask will be taken away from klansmen everywhere".

There is some uncertainty as to whether this means everywhere in Alabama or everywhere in the United States. The Birmingham paper says "it is credibly reported that this action of the klan is to be national in scope—that everywhere, as well as in the confines of this state, the mask is to go". If this is the case, so much more complete the surrender of the klan, and so much the better.

The organization's decision to abandon the use of the hood appears to have been brought about by a com-

bination of influences. The order's face-hiding practice has made it a target of criticism from the first, and more recently it has been shown that hoods were frequently worn by men in the commission of crimes, especially floggings. Demands for the unmasking of the klan grew, and in some states the hood was outlawed. It would seem that klan officials, reading the handwriting on the wall, deemed it better to abandon the visor at this time than to invite spread of legislation prohibiting it.

Still another factor which perhaps influenced Imperial Wizard Evans and his associates in deciding to drop the mask is reputed opposition to the hood within the klan itself. Many good men were drawn into the organization in former years. Numbers of them became disgusted and dropped out. But some of them have stuck, and they are reported to be demanding reform of the klan from within. The fact that all of the thirty-three men recently indicted in Crenshaw county, Alabama, for masked violence "were members of the Ku-Klux Klan," together with other reputed outrages by klansmen, no doubt impressed thoughtful citizens within the order, much as it did those without, with the necessity for abandonment of the hood.

Viewed from any angle, the action of the klan leaders in deciding to unmask on Feb. 22 is tantamount to running up the white flag. For years they and their masked followers have waged a losing fight against American common sense and the integrity of the American character. They have taken advantage of the ignorant, appealed to race and religious prejudice and sought to control men in public office. Now they admit that the thing they desire cannot be accomplished if the hood is retained. And it goes without saying that, if the Ku Klux Klan could not achieve its purpose under cover of darkness, it cannot hope to do so in the light. When the mask goes, an already dying organization will no doubt soon expire.

## DISCARD HOOD; SET UP OLIGARCHY

(From Leesburg, Fla., Commercial.)

Nothing but commendation can be expressed for the decision of leaders of the Ku Klux Klan, announced in news dispatches Sunday morning from Birmingham, to unmask the members of the order on Washington's birthday and from that date to put a final ban upon the hood.

Yet the effect of this order is not as impressive as it would be if it had been issued five years ago. Today it is not a purely voluntary action. Explaining it, the chief officials have spoiled any chance of credit for a noble action by saying that the mask is being outlawed in so many states and cities that it is only a matter of time until it would have to be discarded anyway. There is nothing

noble, therefore, in the action, much as we may commend it.

But this announcement was made almost in the same breath with a most startling pronouncement that adds volumes to the opinion which has been forced upon us from the very beginning of the organization's history—namely that no group of American people of such numerical strength ever had for its high officers as many men of poor judgment or of as small calibre as have afflicted the three Ks.

This pronouncement was that any member who casts a vote for Al Smith for president, should he be the democratic nominee, "will be banished from the order".

The pope of Rome could go no further than that!

It is intimidation of voters and on a wholesale scale—an act punishable under the laws of the United States, and of the various states, by fine and imprisonment.

We hold no brief for Al Smith. Repeatedly we have said we hope he will not be the nominee of our party, although we believe Herbert Hoover is the only man the republicans can nominate who could beat him in November. But as between such a self-crowned king as "Imperial Wizard" Evans who is willing to defy his own country's laws because of personal prejudice, and the more remote danger Tom Heflin fears—that Al Smith will send the United States army to invade some foreign country and conquer it for the pope—the choice is clear for any man of even the most ordinary intelligence.

In this connection we expect to be pardoned for referring to the stand taken by the Commercial years ago on the matter of the mask. The editor was condemned and efforts were made to "run the Commercial out of business". On one occasion a speaker was sent here to talk for the organization and against the Commercial and that speaker declared that another paper would soon appear here.

We have lived to see our stand completely vindicated. The masks will soon be gone.

Today we solemnly warn our friends in this organization that its "invisible government" scheme is profoundly more dangerous than the mask. You do not have to wait for proof if you will merely turn your intelligence towards our native state—Indiana.



## THE KLAN GOING BYE-BYE!

In the New York Times of Sunday is a survey of Klan political strength in those States where it is supposed to have a hold. In all but two or three instances it is shown that the Klan in 1928 is a negligible influence. In Florida it is stronger than in 1924, in Virginia "about the same as in 1924" (it never was very strong in Virginia). In Oklahoma it "will probably stage a substantial revival between now and the Democratic national convention."

But what of the others? Times correspondents declare that—*Adventurer*

In Portland, Maine, Klan strength "has fallen from 900 to 200 or 300 in four years. The organization is less strong in others parts of Western Maine, although there has not been such a shrinkage everywhere as there has been in Portland."

From Cleveland comes the statement that the "strength of the Klan in Ohio. . . is now almost negligible." *2-8-28*

From Detroit: "The power of the Ku Klux Klan in Michigan has decreased to such an extent. . . it is considered a negligible quantity (in Detroit). In the rural districts it plays a much less important part than in 1924." *Adventurer*

From Indianapolis: *Adventurer* The Ku Klux Klan vote is not expected to figure in State politics as much as it did four years ago. Several Klan-picked officials have been indicted and the state-wide publicity has aided materially in lessening the strength of the organization."

Says the Chicago correspondent: "Unless aroused by an issue which it regards as fundamental to its own welfare, the Ku Klux Klan is not expected to have any large influence in this year's Presidential campaign in this State."

The Topeka correspondent says: "The political strength of the Klan in Kansas in 1924 was about 70,000 votes. Since then it has suffered heavy disintegration and now it is estimated that it could not control more than 25,000 votes."

The Atlanta correspondent says: "The once-powerful Ku Klux Klan seems to be on the wane in Georgia."

The Montgomery correspondent declares that "the Klan is making its last stand in Alabama." It is common knowledge that the Klan is having serious difficulties in Alabama.

From Jackson comes the words: "Officers of the Klan in Mississippi admit that the organization has lost 60 per cent of its strength in four years."

The Little Rock reporter says the Klan "is no longer a political factor in Arkansas."

And this from Denver: "The Klan will

be almost a negligible factor in Colorado's 1928 political campaigns." Colorado was once a Klan stronghold.

From Portland, Oregon, away up in the northwestern part of the country, comes this report: "The Klan in Oregon has spent its force to a large extent and is not likely. . . . to be a vital factor in the campaign."

The Louisville correspondent fails to say whether the Klan is gaining or losing ground in Kentucky, but in concluding his dispatch he says: "Last Summer the Klan attempted to show its strength by a State rally in Louisville. But the police broke up the parade."

Even with a Roman Catholic candidate for President on its hands the Klan cannot hold its lines. Nearly everywhere it is slowly disintegrating.

## THE MASK COMES OFF—WHAT NEXT?

### I.

Yesterday Klansmen formally and officially abandoned their masks. Thus in the days of its decline and fall, the Klan has gone in for open-faced methods.

Inasmuch as the Klan has long looked to us for disinterested advice, and no doubt expects a word of counsel from us on the occasion of the removal of the mask, we venture to offer some other suggestions.

Why not abandon robes as well as masks? Why not abandon the hopeless chase altogether? Why don't Klansmen conjure back their lost sense of humor? They are not getting anywhere with their propaganda. In areas where the Klan once was strong it is now weak—rejected by the people after due trial. The existence of the Klan is an irritant. It makes neighbors suspicious and distrustful of one another. It encourages political and social discord, and injures legitimate business enterprises in some instances. A Klansman who sincerely believes in the order and all it stands for and does, is active in its counsels, must at times have his misgivings. If engaged in business, he must have noticed a growing estrangement between himself and old friends and patrons—to what end? Is this the way to hold the Pope down? Is this the way to keep the Vatican in Italy? Is the game worth the candle?

There are men in the Klan, however, who are not Klansmen at heart. They are in the order for convenience. This class, however, has lived to see the Klan come upon dark days. It has little power left. It has little influence and prestige. There is no longer any advantage in it to its time-serving members, and little satisfaction, we imagine, to those who really believe in

it. No doubt, the time-servers will soon drop out.

Our idea is that Klansmen everywhere should now put their minds to more important matters. The time has come when Klansmen themselves should laugh about their bad dream.

### II.

The Ku Klux Klan continues to disintegrate. Everywhere it is losing strength. Members are dropping out by the thousands. Even in its greatest strongholds the Klan is going fast. In fact, it appears to be going faster in States where it was once strong than in others, doubtless because in those States the exposure of Klan outrages, committed while the organization was powerful, has done more to discredit the Klan and turn public sentiment against it.

Thus in Indiana, where the Klan acquired more power than in any other State, its membership has dwindled from 178,000 fully paid up to 4,000. Hugh L. Emmons, former Exalted Cyclops of the Klan, is authority for the statement that the membership has fallen off so heavily. He gave these figures in a deposition before Attorney General Gilliom, of Indiana.

It is not surprising that the Klan's loss in strength should be heaviest in the States where it once was strongest. In those States the Klan acquired great power, which it abused in outrageous fashion. It became more high-handed in those States than in others where it was less powerful, and committed worse atrocities. Consequently the public reaction to it, after its outrages were exposed, was stronger. And there was another factor. The Klan, in building up its membership, enrolled thousands of decent, honorable men. These men were victimized. They did not realize the hideous character of the organization. The Klan's atrocities were committed by, or at the direction of, a small minority of unscrupulous leaders. The vast majority of the members could not have been in sympathy with the things that were done, in Indiana and elsewhere, by the Klan. But their membership made it numerically strong, and their dues made it financially strong, so that they really gave it the power which reckless leaders used to serve their evil purposes. When exposures were made, these thousands of decent men who were not in sympathy with the Klan's disgraceful course got out of the organization. They saw there was no place for decent men in such a disreputable order. That is largely the explanation of the Klan's decline in membership from 178,-

000 to 4,000 in Indiana, and of similar declines in other States.

And now that the Klan has discarded the mask its complete disintegration should be hastened.

## KLANSMEN UNMASKED

According to the orders issued by its head, the Ku Klux organization is to appear hereafter without a mask. It is understood that there is also a change in its name. *Adventurer*

No organization in recent times has had greater publicity than the Klan, and most of it very unfavorable. No doubt, those in charge have noted that this is not the time for such a secret bound order with the charge that they have taken the law into their hands and regulated the same according to their views. *3-1-28*

The unmasking may be the means of depleting the ranks of the order for many have been attracted to it mainly on account of this feature, and too, the change in name may cause it to be less appealing to that class of adherents. At any rate the need of such an organization is not apparent during these times, and it is commendable of the officers to issue the order for the unmasking as well as that for a change in name. As it now stands, all of its members should be a unit for only law enforcement, and that being done by legal officials of the law.




## THE KLAN GOES IN FOR "FACE-LIFTING"

THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE KU KLUX KLAN

is seen by the *Montgomery Advertiser* and a number of American newspapers in the recent doffing of what has been the most bitterly criticized feature of its regalia—the mask. This is the second time in history that the Klan has discarded its hood, remarks the *Brooklyn Eagle*. No longer will shrouded faces march in the dusk of the evening behind a fiery cross; open faces openly arrived at seems to be the order of the day. In place of the old regime a new degree has been created—The Knights of the Great Forest. In other words, notes the *New York World*, “the Klan has taken to the woods.” With the mask goes some of the secret and weird ceremonies of the order, says a Birmingham dispatch to the *New York Times*, but the membership roll is still held inviolate, and the oath and ritual are supposed to remain secret. The candidate of the new “K-Trio” degree, which admits him to the new order, is said to pledge himself to be loyal to the United States and to strive for supremacy of the white race.

Library Digest  
3-10-28  
New York  
N.Y.  
96-11-10



What effect will this "face-lifting operation" have on the fortunes of the Ku Klux Klan? The Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot*, which thus lightly characterizes the latest move of the order, apparently doesn't take the action of Imperial Wizard Evans very seriously. Nor does the Decatur (Ala.) *Daily*, which merely observes that the laundry bills of the members will be reduced thereby. "It has always been a recognized fact that the Klan derived much of its strength from the secrecy which the mask made possible," we are reminded by the South Bend *Tribune*; what will happen, now that the most important reason for public criticism has been removed?

In the opinion of the Camden (N. J.) *Post*, "the Ku Klux Klan has arrived at the jumping-off place. As an organization, it is through." We read on:

"The Klan could have existed nowhere on the face of the earth, except in America. It was a success, temporarily, because it appealed to the playboy instinct of grown-ups and offered burning phrases of patriotism as the excuse for gallivanting about of nights. It blended together a childish mystery and romanticism with pretensions of deeply serious work for the grand old flag. It was as nice as kids playing Injun in the barn lot.

“It failed because its ‘patriotism’ was not real, but ancient bigotry in a new guise. It failed because its ‘mystery’ soon became an open secret and a tedious bore. It failed because its

highest officers stood revealed as dollar grabbers. It failed, finally, because the genuine American sense of humor finally asserted itself and laughed the Klan out of court."

"By unmasking, the Klan admits defeat," agrees a Southern paper, the Columbus (Ga.) *Enquirer-Sun*, edited by Julian Harris, son of Joel Chandler Harris. There was no place for it in true American activities, explains the New Haven *Journal-Courier*. To the New York *Times*, "the Klan is of no importance now except as a reminder of certain foolish trends in American life." The mask, says the Winston-Salem *Journal*, "opened the way to the perpetration of many an outrage, the commission of which was laid at the feet of the hooded order, whether justly or unjustly."

That the Klan bowed to popular opinion in abandoning its disguise is the contention of the *Birmingham News*, which says



P. & A. photograph

## THE KLAN COMES OUT INTO THE OPEN

Whether a lean treasury influenced the Ku Klux Klan to doff the mask and thus increase its membership, as some newspapers claim; whether the desire to defeat Governor Smith at the Democratic Convention was behind the move, as several writers insist; or whether the ambition to do bigger and better things caused the change, as the Imperial Wizard of the order declares, the fact remains that the Klan has abolished this part of its regalia. The photograph shows four members appearing for the first time without their masks.

in its news columns: "States and municipalities throughout the country are outlawing the mask. To forestall universal legislation against the hood, Klan officials deemed it wise to act voluntarily." According to a statement given out at the Klan's headquarters in Washington by Dr. Hiram W. Evans, Emperor and Imperial Wizard of the order, the action is in preparation "for new and larger activities in our national life." Says the statement, in part:

"By virtue of the power and authority in me vested as Emperor and Imperial Wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, and in performance of the solemn duty assigned to me by its constitution and laws, I do hereby proclaim the following edict:

"That on and after midnight of February twenty-second,

year of our Lord nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, no mask or visor shall be upon the helmet of the regalia of any Klansman. It shall hereafter be unlawful for any Klansman to wear any mask or visor as part of his regalia, and each Klansman who shall be unavoidably absent from the meeting of a klan to be held throughout the invisible empire on the twenty-second day of February shall, as soon thereafter as possible, attend a regular meeting of a klan and there become a member of the Knights of the Great Forest."

But, objects the Hartford *Courant*, "while the leopard can remove its mask, it can not change its spots." The Klan remains the same, "an organization of prejudice, masking itself under the name of Americanism," declares the Albany *News*. In another editorial, the Hartford paper "doubts that this stripping off of the mask in the limelight will create any warmer public sentiment for the Klan. Let it strip off its intolerance if it wishes to make an impression on the country." To the Montgomery *Advertiser*, this unmasking business "is the beginning of the end." Continues the Alabama paper:

"The Ku Klux Klan continues to disintegrate. Everywhere it is losing strength. Members are dropping out by the thousands. Even in its greatest strongholds the Klan is going fast. In fact, it appears to be going faster in States where it was once strong than in others, doubtless because in those States the exposure of Klan outrages, committed while the organization was powerful, has done more to discredit the Klan and turn public sentiment against it.

"Now the Klan proposes to discard the mask, thinking thereby to regain some of its lost strength. Klan officials believe that with the mask removed many will be attracted to the order who otherwise would not join. But the Klan as a means of in-

who otherwise would not join. Dayton, Ohio, as a means of increasing interest and bringing new members into the order. Atlanta

# **CLAN BURNED MEN, WITNESSES SWEAR**

As the stories were told, John H. Connaughton, of Washington, D. C., chief klan counsel, fought every step of the way, objecting time and again as Van A. Barrickman, himself a defendant, and counsel for five banished members, drew the testimony from the witnesses.

## Ouster Suit Brings Stories of Torture, Riot- ing and Night Riding in Many States.

**Stories of Torture, Rioting and Night Riding in Many States.**

Pittsburgh, April 10.—(AP)—Stories of the burning alive of seven or eight men in Texas by Ku Klux Klansmen, rioting in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the organization in the latter state of the "night riders" who were given orders to burn churches and carry out bombings and assassinations, were told by witnesses in the klan injunction suits in federal court here today.

The most dramatic story of the day was brought from Clarence W. Ludlow, of Pittsburgh, who said that as a member of Dallas, Texas, lodge No. 56, he witnessed the burning alive of seven or eight men, one at Terrell, Texas, where he said a white man was convicted by a "kangaroo court," taken to an isolated spot, tarred and oiled, and then set afire as some 300 or 400 hooded klansmen looked on. In another instance, he said, a man named Smith was tried, convicted of failing to support his family, and, under direction of Imperial Wizard Hiram Evans was tarred and feathered.

High klan officials were accused by witnesses of instigating and ordering killings, inspiring riots, and causing a bomb to be set off in the klan hall at The organization of a band of "night riders," also known as the "Battalion of Death," to conduct a reign of terror in Ohio, was told of



by J. R. Ramsey, of Dayton, who said he was a former member of the riders.

He said the night riders had boomed their own temple in Dayton in an effort to gain sympathy for the klan and to stir up the klansmen against their opponents. He told of orders coming from a klan chief to kill certain persons. In one instance, he said, he and other night riders were ordered to take a man for a ride to Bellaire. He took the "offending citizen" for the ride, he said, but refused to kill him.

Barrickman brought a heated objection from Connaughton when he asked Ramsey if he had knowledge of Evans sending klansmen to Mexico in an effort to foment trouble between the United States and that nation. Judge W. H. S. Thomson sustained the objection.

#### Church Bombed.

Harry E. A. MacNeel, ex-klagle and exalted cyclops of klan lodges in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, told how a cross was fired and a bomb set off in front of St. Mary's Catholic church at Kittanning, Pa., at the direction of Sam D. Rich, former grand dragon of Pennsylvania. He testified Rich said this was done "to throw the fear of God into their hearts."

He said klan speakers and agitators were sent to Pennsylvania klan meetings from state and national headquarters of the organization and were paid \$150 a night for their services.

MacNeel characterized one of the speakers as "very radical." He quoted one as saying: "Unless we make a stand the pope will be over here and all of us will be kissing his toes!" The speakers, he testified, urged the shooting of priests "like dogs" and told klansmen "the only kind of good Catholics and Jews were now dead."

#### Members Given Guns.

MacNeel testified Rich furnished arms to klansmen for the demonstration at Carnegie, Pa., August 25, 1923, which resulted in a riot between citizens and parading members of the order. Rich told the klansmen he feared trouble the night of the riot. MacNeel testified. The witness, whose testimony was followed closely by the crowded courtroom, said Rich told him to furnish his own gun because his (Rich's) supply was depleted.

MacNeel dramatically recited his narrow escape from death in the Carnegie disorder.

Rich assigned him to special duty in the front column of the parade, said MacNeel, who is 65 years old. He told the court he was the only klansman who did not have a visor pulled down over his face and that when the shooting began someone pulled him back. Klansman Thomas R. Abbott took the position which he vacated and was slain, MacNeel said.

#### Attack on Al Smith

Between 20,000 and 25,000 klansmen attended the Carnegie meeting. MacNeel testified, adding the members came from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and other states. Evans gave the command for the klansmen to march but remained at the field where the meeting was held, MacNeel declared.

Sawed-off shotguns, revolvers and other weapons were carried by march-

ing klansmen from Youngstown, Ohio, and other cities, he said.

Speeches derogatory to Governor Al Smith, of New York, and Catholics and Jews were made at a meeting of the klan in Reading, Pa., in September, 1925, testified Dr. L. D. Peebles, of Parnassus, Pa., one-time klagle and adjutant general of the klavaliars. He said the speeches were made by Dr. H. C. Shaw, Pennsylvania grand dragon and a former Methodist minister.

## Klan Charged With Burning 8

### Injunction Suit Witnesses Tell Of Horrors

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Ku Klux Klan - 1928

## RESTAURANT MAN HELD FOR MURDER IN NEGRO'S DEATH

G. W. Ward, 35, of 247 Peters street, was held for the Fulton grand jury under a charge of murder Wednesday in police court when he waived preliminary hearing in the case. Ward is alleged to have shot and killed James Barnes, a negro, Monday night in Ward's restaurant at 247 Peters street. The defendant claims that he shot the negro in self-defense, it was said.

According to the report made by Call Officers J. A. Brown and C. E. McCrary regarding the slaying, Ward who owns the restaurant, asked the negro not to enter the kitchen, which the negro resented. A scuffle followed and Barnes walked out returning with a piece of plank and striking Ward on the head, the officers were told.

In a second scuffle which followed, Ward fired twice and both shots took effect, the negro dying within a few minutes, the officers were told.

## UNIDENTIFIED NEGRO SLAIN AFTER QUARREL

An unidentified negro man was shot in the head, by G. W. Ward in a restaurant early Monday night at 247 Peters street, following an altercation with Ward. The negro was taken to Grady hospital and died within a few minutes, without regaining consciousness.

According to information given Call Officers J. A. Brown and C. E. McCrary by by-standers, Ward, who owns the restaurant, requested the negro not to go into the kitchen. The negro is said to have resented the request and a scuffle ensued, after which the negro walked out of the store, picked up a piece of plank, and struck Ward over the head with it. Another scuffle followed, during which Ward fired twice, one of the shots taking effect.

A piece of paper in the negro's pocket bore the name "James Askew, 229 Ashby street, S. W.," but police have been unable to establish the victim's identity.

# MURDERS YOUTH WHO FORGOT TO TIP HAT

Atlanta, Ga., April 6.—What is characterized as the most brutal killing in this city since the Atlanta riots occurred last Monday night when James Barnes, age 17, sophomore at Morehouse college, was shot to death by G. W. Ward (white), proprietor of a restaurant at 247 Peter St. The trouble arose, according to reports, when Barnes, collecting on his paper

route, went into Ward's place and failed to remove his hat. The white man cursed the student, seized him by the collar of his coat and manhandled him. He let Barnes go the door and kicked him out.

Bystanders who witnessed the tragedy said that Barnes continued on his way to avoid further trouble. He succeeded in getting a short distance from the restaurant when Ward rushed upon him with revolver in hand. Barnes attempted to run, but Ward seized him by the coat, pressed his pistol to the student's head and fired a bullet in his brain. Ward was so close to Barnes that there were powder burns on his shirt. After the student fell to the ground Ward, according to reports, jumped on his breast and ground his shoe heel in his face.

### Tell False Story

In an attempted effort to have Ward released several of his friends told Call Officers J. A. Brown and C. E. McCrary that the white man had requested Barnes not to go into the kitchen of his restaurant and that the latter resented the request and slapped Ward. Others said Barnes went out and returned with a plank and knocked the white man down. Several who really witnessed the shooting, characterized it as "cold blooded" and "without provocation."

Ward, after killing Barnes, walked back into his restaurant and said, "Well, I've settled that nigger, and I enjoyed it. A lot more of 'em need the same treatment." He is being held without bail awaiting the action of the coroner's jury.

Barnes was highly recommended by officials of the circulation department of the Atlanta Georgian, for whom he was collecting when slain. He was a route carrier and was held in high esteem for his squareness and integrity. All of his subscribers spoke highly of him and expressed hope that he will at least get fair play after death and that the law will exercise its rights to the limit.

### Was Popular Student

Barnes was a popular student at Morehouse, having attended college there for the past six years, three of which were spent in the academic department. He was a native Georgian but his parents are now living in Youngstown, Ohio. Faculty members spoke in high terms of his character and expressed deep regret at his untimely end.

A spirit of unrest prevailed around the campus at Morehouse when news of the tragedy reached there. Advanced students and faculty members implored the student body to let the law take its course.

Atlanta citizens are watching the case with close interest, several local lawyers having offered their services free of charge to aid in the prosecution. In the event Ward is released by the coroner, citizens through counsel will ask his indictment by the grand jury. A fund will be raised to aid in hiring the best criminal lawyer in Atlanta to prosecute the slayer.

## NOT GUILTY VERDICT IN FLOGGING TRIAL

Milledgeville Ga. July 18.—(AP)—Fountain Hardy, Wilkinson county farmer, was acquitted in the Baldwin superior court this afternoon on being implicated in the flogging of Jim Angles, Baldwin county farmer, who was taken from his home early last May and severely flogged. The jury was out less than an hour when the verdict was rendered.

Hardy, together with L. L. Smith and J. W. Hubbard, was accused by Angles of being a member of the band of four men who administered the flogging to him. The three men were arrested the following day and released under bonds of \$5,000 pending the outcome of the trial.

According to Solicitor General Joe B. Duke, of the Ocmulgee circuit, who conducted the prosecution of Hardy,

Georgia.

the indictments against Smith and Hubbard will now be dropped.

Angles was taken from his home and carried six miles into the country and flogged with a tack-stubbed leather thong. The man was whipped so severely that attending physicians at the time had little hope for his recovery.

The courtroom was packed to capacity during the trial today and the spectators closely followed the arguments of the attorneys.

Judge J. B. Park, of the Ocmulgee circuit, presided at the trial and the defendant was represented by Marion Allen and J. B. Pottle, local attorneys.



Ku Klux Klan - 1928.

### The Klan Unmasks

The announcement that on Washington's birthday the Klan will unmask did not suggest the motives which prompted its decision, nor has it removed suspicion of the Klan itself. The leaders who now renounce the hood are the very leaders who six months ago were shouting loudly for it. There is no reason to suppose that their action arises from a sudden conversion to decency. It is only reasonable to suppose that the Klan leaders, seeing the mask so widely condemned that it is no longer suited to their purposes, have now abandoned it and propose to seek their ends by other means.

Those ends, it becomes increasingly clear, the Klan will not achieve. For months, all the evidence agrees, it has steadily been losing its membership. Its coffers are consequently much depleted. As a semi-religious organization designed to stir up prejudices and align American against American it has wrought marvellously, but its effectiveness in that direction is now rapidly lessening. As a political organization, thriving on religious and racial animosities, it has maliciously fought honorable Democrats, including the nation's outstanding Democrats but the revelations of its corruption, its bitter narrowness and its utter contempt for law have turned even the politicians against it, and the star of the man it has most maligned, Governor Smith, shines brighter. Losing membership, losing its campaign to establish bigotry and prejudice as the principles of the party of Jefferson—most important of all, losing the dollars of the gullible from whom it formerly recruited in great numbers—the Klan now unmasks.

By so doing it admits defeat. Not that the leaders say so—they, no doubt, will make an effort to continue their activities as of yore. But the announcement that the hood is to go, if it is to be taken at its face value, is in reality an admission of defeat. Lawlessness does not thrive in daylight. It was behind the shadow of the mask that the Klan worked its lawless, evil deeds and cast its spell of mystery over weak and romantic minds. Will those minds, having deserted in great numbers, be seduced in numbers to return? Hardly. Will new members be won by this indirect declaration that the Klan hopes to make itself respectable? It is doubtful; the reputation of the Klan is too bad. Harmless it may become, as harmless as a Sunday school picnic, but about it will always cling the odor of brutal, cowardly deeds.

How long an unmasked Klan will linger on, we do not predict. Nor is that a question of much interest. What we are interested in is the fact that for practical purposes the Klan is dying and soon will be dead. During

its history we can remember only one appropriate thing it has done: It has chosen for the de-masking act the birthday of a great American who would have been first to condemn the mask, and all that it has recently represented.

### NEGRO IS FLOGGED

#### BY MOB IN SPARTA

Sparta, Ga., January 20.—(AP)—Officers here are making a county-wide search for the mob that took a 43-year-old negro from his home on the farm of the A. and M. school near here and administered a flogging to him, leaving him in a semi-conscious condition with a warning "to leave the state immediately or he would be killed." The flogging is said to have resulted from the fact that Hunt is alleged to have enticed another negro away from a white farmer in Hancock county after the negro had agreed to work for the latter farmer. The flogging which happened Tuesday night, did not become known here until today.



# ILLINOIS TO OPEN FIGHT ON KLAN AS MENACE TO STATE

(Photo on Picture Page)

On the first roll call for introduction of bills at the coming session of the Illinois legislature in January, Representative-elect William E. King of the Third Chicago district, intends, he declared, to go after the Ku Klux Klan even more strongly than he did in the 54th general assembly. King's speech in that assembly put him on record as a fighter and his expression, "King never retreats," was laid on the fact that none of these societies had ever been of record as attempting to take the law into their own hands, but, on the other hand, were made up of highly law-abiding citizens.

This was after his bill relative to the Klan had been called "out of place" by Representative David E. Shanahan, who had been four times speaker, and Representative Frank A. McCarthy of Elgin, both Roman Catholics and in sympathy with the bill, but taking the stand that a legislative body should "let the Klan die a natural death and not dignify it with attention."

## Framed After New York Bill

Since the famous battle on the floor of the lower house, the supreme court of the United States has declared the New York bill against the Klan constitutional. It was part of the argument of Shanahan and McCarthy that the bill of King if passed would be unconstitutional. The King bill was framed in identical language with the New York bill at that time.

Now with the decision of the supreme court behind him as a commanding force, King means to introduce a bill which will be word for word with the New York law so that there may be no question of its constitutionality. In this manner he means to drive the Ku Klux Klan, as an organization, out of the state of Illinois unless its officers stand ready to file with the secretary of state a list of its officers, the oath of office members are required to take and its ritual.

The decision of the supreme court, with only one justice dissenting, and this member on a question of jurisdiction, set apart such organizations as the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Columbus, who require an oath or affirmation of secrecy when they enroll new members, as different in purpose from the Klan. Emphasis

## Sat Near Klansmen

King was not a member of the last legislature, having been defeated for renomination by Representative Warren B. Douglas. This time he defeated Douglas in the same manner. When he was in the house in 1925 he sat in a position where at least three avowed members of the Klan were in whispering distance of him. He let that be known in his speeches, and, notwithstanding the fact that he was "hissed by some of his near neighbors" in the house, he flinched in no way in his denunciation of the organization on the floor.

"With the supreme court having upheld the New York law," he said today, "I cannot foresee any member trying to obstruct a bill which they will know in advance is constitutional. This time no member can make an argument against the bill on that ground, because it will be an exact counterpiece of the New York law."



Ku Klux Klan - 1928.

# POPE RULED KLAN, ALLEGED ACTIVITIES SAYS EX-MEMBER OF KLAN DIVULGED

Indianapolis, Ind., March 6.—(P)—Further revelations of how the Ku Klux Klan is alleged to have sought complete political power in Indiana and elsewhere were given here today in depositions before Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom, who is seeking to oust the order from the state.

The witnesses were Samuel H. Bemenderfer of Muncie, formerly an official, who declared the klan "a gigantic swindle" and an order whose officers in many states were controlled by the Roman Catholic political machine; Orie Norcross, also a former officer; Thomas W. Swift, of Indianapolis, and E. R. Stilson, of Anderson, whose regalia manufacturing company made the robes worn by the members of the secret order.

Bemenderfer declared he quit the klan in 1924, after he found that "in practically all states state officers were controlled by the Roman Catholic political machine."

Distribution of klan political slates, leaflets "exposing" the alleged fourth oath of the Knights of Columbus; a gigantic plan whereby D. C. Stephenson, grand dragon, could direct the organization's political activities by a telephone from Indianapolis; statements as to membership and distribution of klectokens, or initiation fees, were outlined by the witnesses.

The witnesses testified that the klan interested itself mostly in politics.

"That a new civic messiah will be born in the manger of the Hoosier ballot box" was the advice given klansmen in an "official mandate"

signed by Milton S. Elrod, editor-in-chief of the fiery Cross, the klan official newspaper, under date of October 6, 1923, Norcross testified.

"Who was the messiah to be born in the ballot box?" Attorney General Gilliom asked.

"I never learned," Norcross said with a smile.

"We found that the klan's finances in Illinois were placed in a Catholic bank and that the organization's attorneys were Catholics," Bemenderfer declared. "The grand dragon of St. Louis was a Catholic," he asserted.

Bemenderfer said the committee had learned that a man named Savage, located in Washington, D. C., and head of the klan's imperial investigation committee, also was a Catholic.

## Battalion Of Death Described In Indiana Hearing To Oust Ku Klux

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., March 26.—

(P)—Acts of terrorism alleged to have been committed by members of the Ku Klux Klan in Ohio in recent years and a charge that the secret order was closely associated with units of state government were related to Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom today by James R. Ramsey of Gratiot, Wis. The testimony was taken in a deposition in Gilliom's suit to oust the klan from Indiana.

The "battalion of death" of the klan and the knight riders of Ohio were branches of the klan formed to carry out "a program of terror, including public whippings, burning churches and theaters, making threats, illegal liquor raids and engaging in guerilla warfare," Ramsey said. He lived in Dayton, Ohio, while a klansman, he added, having entered the organization at Springfield, Ohio. Ramsey said he was banished in March 1927, and since had moved to Gratiot, Wis., where he was engaged in the amusement business.

Men were kidnaped and beaten for drunkenness, a Catholic priest was whipped, illegal liquor raids were made and other acts of terrorism committed by klansmen who were affiliated with the knight riders of Ohio and the battalion of death, Ramsey told Gilliom. The priest lived in Dayton and the alleged beating occurred in the Summer of 1926.

Ohio National Guardsmen in uniform attended the state meeting of the Ohio klan at Buckeye Lake Aug. 29 and 30, 1925, Ramsey said, and added that some of the guard officers were affiliated with the order. On one occasion at Dayton, he said national guard rifles were provided the grand dragon's guard. Ramsey testified that he was commander of the guard and the knight riders. Lieut. Col. Don Caldwell of Cincinnati, 147th Infantry, was a past exalted cyclops of the klan, Ramsey said. A Lieut. Ketcham of Akron, Ohio, also was associated with the klan, according to the witness.

The real purpose of the State Intelligence Department of Ohio was principally "to control sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys, police chiefs and snoopers in general," Ramsey testified. Members of the grand dragon's guard were members of the Intelligence Department, he said.

In 1924, the klan made political slates and supported the successful campaign of Vic Donahey for the governorship, Ramsey declared.

"Radicalism" of some klansmen

brought about the riot in Niles, Ohio, in 1924, Ramsey said. Several persons were killed and others injured.

Among the statements Ramsey made were that the klan in Ohio collected approximately \$10,000,000 and did not spend any of it for charitable purposes; that between \$200,000 and \$250,000 were collected for a state home which never was constructed and that the klan in Ohio at its peak had more than 400,000 members, but that it had shrunk to about 250,000 in 1926.



Ku Klux Klan-1928.

## KLAN LOSES FIGHT AGAINST TAXATION

GREENFIELD, Iowa, Jan. 5.—(A P)—Under a ruling by Judge E. W. Dingus, the Ku Klux Klan of Adams county must pay taxes upon its local headquarters, the judge deciding that evidence presented failed to uphold the Klan's contention that it is a "charitable, benevolent and fraternal" organization, and therefore exempt from taxation.

Ku Klux Klan-1928.

## Ku Klux Nightie Showing Under Her Red, White, and Blue D.A.R. Head Told by Wm. Allen White

EMPORIA, Kansas, Apr. 5.—(A P)—A connection between the leadership of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Ku Klux Klan was charged by William Allen White, Emporia editor and author, in a statement issued here today.

Including his name on a speakers' blacklist of the D. A. R., Mr. White suggested, was in recognition for his fight on the Klan four years ago as a Republican gubernatorial candidate in Kansas.

Mrs. Alfred J. Brosseau, President General of the D. A. R., the editor asserted, was responsible for the blacklist which included numerous organizations as well as individuals. He declared it was issued without the approval of the national board or management of the D. A. R.

"This list," he said, "goes out of its way in what Mrs. Brosseau calls her propaganda for preparedness to pick out and include the peculiar enemies of the Ku Klux Klan. The D. A. R. has yanked the Klan out of its cow pastures and set it down in the breakfast room of respectability, removing its famous hood and putting on a transformation."

"The list particularly singles out organizations affecting colored people, Jews and Catholics."

Mr. White named the National Catholic welfare council, the league for Jewish women, and the National Association for the advancement of colored people as organizations under the D. A. R. ban.

"Mrs. Brosseau is a lovely lady with many beautiful qualities of mind and heart," the editor said, "but in her enthusiasm she has allowed several lengths of Ku Klux Klan nightie to show under her red, white and blue."

The W. C. T. U., the Methodist Federation for Social Service, the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the National Council of Women and the Farmers' National Council are some of the organizations on the D. A. R.'s official prescribed list, Mr. White said.

His statement charged the farmers' National Council was under the ban "because the outfit of apoplectic old gentlemen who proposed the silly military and naval program which congress has just defeated, were so greedy for their employers, the munition men, that they feared

farm better would require a dole out of the taxes which would take away the loot of their bosses."

## WHITE DRAGS KLAN INTO D. A. R. ROW

Emporia, Kan., April 5.—(A P)—William Allen White, Emporia editor and author, declared in a statement today that the speakers' "blacklist" of the Daughters of the American Revolution "goes out of its way to pick out and include the peculiar enemies of the Ku Klux Klan."

He asserted that Mrs. Alfred J. Brosseau, president-general of the D. A. R., had placed individuals and organizations under the ban of the D. A. R. disapproval without consulting her national board of management. Mr. White is on the D. A. R. "blacklist."

"Mrs. Brosseau is a lovely lady with many beautiful qualities of heart and mind," he said, "but in her enthusiasm she has allowed several lengths of Ku Klux Knightie to show under her red, white and blue."

"The D. A. R. has yanked the Klan out of the cow pastures and set it down in the breakfast room of respectability removing its famous hood and putting on a transformation."

"The list," he said, "particularly picks out organizations affecting colored people, Jews and Catholics. For instance, one of the banned organizations is the National Catholic Welfare council, another is the League of Jewish Women, still another is the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People."

Kansas.



# Ku Klux Warned Lincoln Men To Change Subject

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.—Bricks, to which were attached Ku Klux Klan notes were hurled thru the windows of the Harvard University Liberal Club,



MARSHALL

ro Wednesday morning.

"The fact that Marshall and I stayed in Klaverly Hall, one of the dormitories was in part the cause of the trouble," he said.

Mr. Hill added "We were handsomely treated by the students of Harvard University.



HILL

which debated last Thursday with a team from Lincoln, Pa. University on the subject "Resolved That Further Intermixing of the Races is Desirable." NO DECISION WAS GIVEN.

Ku Kluxers were told because of the subject of the debate and sent word to the club forbidding the discussion. The club paid no attention to the warnings and the bricks were thrown.

Richard Hurst Hill and Thurgood Marshall, both Baltimore men represented Lincoln. Harvard club debaters were Harem Hubbard and William Fairbanks.

LINCOLN, PA. (By Wire)—No one was injured in the Ku Klux outbreak at Harvard, Richard H. Hill told the Af-

most vigorously is that the prejudices of the Ku Klux Klan should be enacted into the laws of our country."

Richard Hearst Hill of Lincoln was the last speaker for the negative. He argued on the social consciousness of the white man. He also cited laws that made a Race man with a small percentage of white, Indian and Race blood a white man in Oklahoma, an Indian in Michigan, and Race man in Florida.

A vote was not taken, but from the applause indicated that the Harvard youths had won.

Threatening messages signed "K. K. K." and received by the Harvard Liberal club prior to the debate, resulted in placing a police guard around the Liberal club's building, it was learned after the debate.

## KLAN THREATS FAIL TO STOP BOSTON DEBATE

### Speakers Flay Racial Intolerances

Boston, Mass., March 23.—In spite of Ku Klux Klan threats the Harvard Liberal club (white) established a precedent when they took the affirmative in a debate with the debating team of Lincoln university at Tremont temple Thursday evening on the question, "Resolved that Further Intermixing of the Races in the United States is Desirable." J. K. Fairbanks, who opened for the Harvard Liberal club, said his teammate, E. Haven Hubbard, '30, and Richard Hurst Hill of the Lincoln teams were members of a student delegation in Moscow last summer. One day, having nothing to do, they evolved the idea of staking this debate when they returned.

Fairbanks said race prejudice is "a

hangover from slavery days." He pleaded for social equality and social intermingling of the races. In speaking on intermarriages he said they did not advocate that because it was an individual matter that should be settled between the two parties, and it concerns no one but ourselves. He further said that there is no separate civilization in America and those contributing to it must no be kept separate. They must intermingle. Duplication of schools are harmful. It hampers our civilization because enough money is not provided for the Colored youth in these separate schools. This creates illiteracy and this in turn creates crime and unemployment. Voluntary segregation of the Race works evil.

Thurgood Marshall, the first speaker for Lincoln, maintaining the negative, argued that any attempt to destroy the family unit, the basic factor of civilization, was against genuine society, was its enemy and was to be condemned. He confined his argument almost entirely to intermarriage.

#### Discuss Intermarriage

E. Haven Hubbard, the last speaker for the affirmative, said that if there were barriers against intermarriage they should be removed. Race prejudice brings on friction and estrangement. Black and white people have a similarity of interest in this country. They must intermingle to know each other. Black and white children play together. They would continue to intermingle all their lives if they were not contaminated by unpleasant ideas of their elders. His definition of social equality: It exists when a man shall rise or fall in the civic scale entirely by his intrinsic merit, and it should exist in a democracy. "The things we protest against



### THAT KLAN PARADE

Now that the elections are near, the Ku Klux Klan, which claims a membership of sixty thousand in St. Louis, has promised St. Louis a "big parade" in the near future according to daily newspaper reports.

Two self-styled Klansmen are here and have opened headquarters in a down town office building and, together with their lieutenants and paid solicitors, are recruiting memberships at the rate of 250 per day. If this rate is kept up, by the time the primary election is held in August, there will be more than 100,000 Klansman in the City of St. Louis. *August*

Of course, there is some speculation as to what it is that has given such encouragement to the Klan movement in this city recently. We all know that the Klan gets busy about election time, and keeps a keen eye watching for Negroes, Catholics and Jews who perchance may be seeking public office. Then, too, we believe that the Billy Sunday meetings have had much to do with the revival of the Klan spirit in St. Louis, for it is a well known fact that the Klan membership is made up of white protestants, and we all know that the Billy Sunday meetings here were under the auspices of the protestant churches. We all know that the devil is the chief backer of the Klan and we all know that the spirit of the Ku Klux Klan occupied the front seats at Billy Sunday's meetings at the Coliseum. So, some demonstrations or celebration is the logical sequence of the closing of the Billy Sunday meetings, and the Ku Klux Klan seems to be the logical body to carry on the spirit of the meetings. *3-2-28*

It will be remembered that this is not the first time that the Klan has promised us a parade in St. Louis, and before the date set "got cold feet." It was said that there was much rejoicing in Klandom when Victor J. Miller was elected Mayor of the City of St. Louis. It was said that the Klans would run wild following his inauguration, but *St. Louis* somebody has, no doubt, been disappointed. Even though a permit to parade through the streets of this city has been granted the hooded band by the Director of Streets Brooks, one of Mayor Miller's appointees, still no Klan parade thus far has disgraced our streets.

Just whether Mr. Brooks will grant another permit to the Klan, thus aiding in the spread of racial and religious hatred, we do not know. But, we do know that such a parade can be stopped.

Let the Jews, Catholics and the Negroes bind themselves together against the common enemy, the Ku Klux Klan, and the Klan spirit with the same kind of weapon with which it is fighting us, and there will be no Klan parade in St. Louis, not only in the near future, but in the distant future.



# THE KLAN IN NEW YORK.

The Walker law adopted by the New York Legislature some five years ago, to regulate the organization of the Ku Klux Klan in this state and drive it into the light of open day, has been upheld as constitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States. <sup>Age</sup> This bill was introduced by Mayor Walker, at that time a State Senator, and was intended to abolish the secrecy in which the <sup>Age</sup> Klan hid its purposes and operations. The law provided that its constitution, by-laws and roll of membership <sup>New York</sup> must be made public by filing copies with the Secretary of State. An officer of a Buffalo <sup>Age</sup> Klan was arrested for failing to comply with the law and his conviction was appealed to the Supreme Court as an invasion of the equal rights guaranteed to all citizens under the Fourteenth amendment.

Think of the audacity of a klansman or his counsel, claiming protection of the law under the Fourteenth amendment!

But this little subterfuge did not fool any of the astute Judges of the highest tribunal of the land. Judge Van Deventer cited the opinions given by the lower courts, all of them condemning the Klan as a public menace, and pointed to the information brought out in an investigation by Congress, as justifying the action by the legislature. His decision, read in part:

It (the Legislature) was advised, putting controverted evidence, that the order was a revival of the Ku Klux Klan of an earlier time, with additional features borrowed from the Know Nothing and the A. P. A. orders of other periods; that its membership was limited to native-born, Gentile, Protestant whites; that in part of its constitution and printed creed it proclaimed the widest freedom for all and full adherence to the Constitution of the United States, in another exacted of its members an oath to shield and preserve "white supremacy," and in still another declared any person actively opposing its principles to be "a dangerous ingredient in the body politic of our country and an enemy to the weal of our national commonwealth"; that it was conducting a crusade against Catholics, Jews and Negroes and stimulating hurtful religious and race prejudices; that it was striving for political power and assuming a

sort of guardianship over the administration of local, state and national affairs; and that at times it was taking into its own hands the punishment of what some of its members conceived to be crimes.

That describes in a nutshell the animus of the Klan in New York and other Northern states. Its chief menace is not against the Negro, but as an instigator of religious and racial prejudices in the rural sections and smaller communities. In the larger cities it has fewer adherents, although its activities became apparent in a Memorial Day parade at Jamaica, a year or two ago. Some of its supporters go so far as to assure Negroes, that it is not their race that they are after, but that the Klan activities in New York are aimed against Jews and Catholics.

Regardless of whether its intended victims are white or black, The Age has steadily contended for the active enforcement of the Walker law by the District attorneys of every county in the State. The Klan should be kept in the open, so as to rob it of the power to strike its victims in the dark. It is an aggregation of cowards and sadists and dupes, who are dangerous only when their identity can be hidden.



Ku Klux Klan - 1928

Pennsylvania.

## Heflin Speaks At Klan Meeting Favors Hoover

TURTLE CREEK, Pa., Sept. 13.  
—More than 7,000 members of the Ku Klux Klan heard Senator Thomas J. Heflin of Alabama deliver a fiery speech in which he predicted the election of Herbert Hoover as the next President. The meeting was held in Shafer's Grove, Saturday afternoon.



# Simmons Charges Judge Holds Klan Fox Tried To Slay Burned and Beat Him as Ordered Men, Denies Suit

**Ex-Klan Head Declares  
Convicted Murderer of  
Coburn Made Attempt  
on Life Day Preceding.**

Pittsburgh, April 7.—(P)—Charging that he was marked for death because he openly opposed "maladministration of the affairs of the Ku Klux Klan under the Evans administration," William J. Simmons, founder of the order, filed a deposition in federal court here today, supporting five former members in their suit to have a receiver appointed to the Klan in this state.

The receivership suit, a counter action filed after the Klan had asked that the former members be restrained from using its name, will be called up in court Monday. The former members ask that a receiver be named and that the Klan account for all money collected in the state. The Klan, asking the restraining order, sought \$100,000 damages from the ex-members, claiming they collected that sum from Klan members without authorization.

## Evans Assailed.

Simmons, in his deposition, assailed the administration of Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans, and charged that he had "reliable information" indicating that persons connected with Evans had sought to take his life. He said that Phil Fox, publicity agent for Evans, had attempted to assassinate him the day before Fox killed Captain W. S. Coburn, Atlanta attorney.

"Since the present administration took charge of the Klan," Simmons continued, "judging from all that I have been able to see and hear, it has been destructive and conducted contrary to its original plans and purposes. . . . I could not consistently remain or be a member of the order and thereby indorse the maladministration of the organization. The en-

tire conduct of the administration of the Klan throughout the nation under his (Evans) regime is grossly disgusting, and very evidently manifests everything else but a spirit and purpose of constructive patriotism."

## Overthrown by Evans.

Simmons charged that Evans overthrew him as chief of the Klan by a conspiracy in which D. C. Stephenson, now serving a life term for murder in Indiana, was involved. He said this conspiracy was entered into before the imperial klonvocation in November, 1922. He named Fred L. Savage and Paul S. Etheridge as parties to the alleged conspiracy, and charged that he had reason to believe Evans was made imperial wizard by enemies of the Klan into whose hands he had played and "wrought its sure wreckage."

Simmons said that while he was at the head of the order there never was a riot involving the Klan. He alleged that he had knowledge of the wholesale squandering and misappropriation of Klan funds under the present administration.

During the day, attorneys for the Klan appeared before Federal Judge W. H. S. Thompson and moved that a deposition by Stephenson, previously entered, be suppressed. The court announced it would rule on the petition Monday.

## FOX SILENT AT STATE FARM.

Milledgeville, Ga., April 7.—(Special.)—Philip Fox, serving a life sentence here for the murder in Atlanta of Captain W. S. Coburn, Klan official, could not be reached Saturday for a statement concerning the affidavit of William J. Simmons, in Pittsburgh.

Attaches of the superintendent's office at the state prison farm declared that Fox stated he "did not care to talk at this time." His reported refusal to talk was made without being apprised of the Simmons deposition concerning him.

## Court Says Hooded Order's Hands Filthy and Cannot Gain Relief From State.

Pittsburgh, April 13.—(P)—A stern indictment of the Ku Klux Klan, in which it was held to be responsible for riots, bloodshed and the burning of men alive, was made here late today by Federal Judge W. H. S. Thomson, in an opinion dismissing an injunction suit brought by the order against five former members. Damages of \$500,000 were denied the Klan.

The court, after hearing sensational testimony for five days, including a denial by Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans, held that the organization came into the court of equity with "filthy hands" and could gain no relief from him.

Judge Thomson placed the costs upon the Klan.

## Testimony Startling.

The court upheld testimony offered by the defendants against the Klan, that klansmen had burned a negro live in Texas, had hogged citizens; had maintained a secret terrorist organization known as the "knight riders" and "black robe" gang, had fomented riots; had caused bombs to be set off; had kidnaped a child in Pittsburgh, and had stirred up racial and religious feelings throughout the country.

## Three Witnesses Heard.

Three witnesses were heard. Evans had denied all charges, including allegations, the existence of any "black robe" and "knight rider" Klan.

W. G. Seemiller, Philadelphia, last witness called by the defense, charged that a super-secret order did exist within the Klan and offered in evidence a hood, with skull and crossbones, and a black robe containing

the Klan insignia.

## Klan Is Attacked.

Pointing out that much of the defense testimony came from klansmen, the court said it had no difficulty in finding that the Klan "has established and is maintaining a form of despotic rule which is being operated in secret, under direct sanction and authority of the plaintiff's chief officers. That in violation of the rights and liberties of the people, it has set up tribunals not known to the law, before which citizens of the commonwealth, not members of the Klan, are brought subjected to some form of trial, and upon conviction, severe corporal punishments are imposed, painful, humiliating and often brutal in their character, and in some instances, destructive of life itself."

"That under the direct authorization of the principal officers of the Klan in the state, men are designated for punishment, and are punished and maltreated without any legal charge being preferred against them, and without a hearing or trial, in open and flagrant violation of the constitution and laws of the land."

## Caused Racial Strife.

"That the plaintiff organization, through its actual operations and teachings, have stirred up racial and religious prejudices, fomented disorder, and encouraged riots and unlawful assemblies, which have resulted in flagrant breaches of the peace, defiance of the law, bloodshed and loss of life."

"That in the secret opinions of the corporation's activities, and in hostility to the civil authorities, military organizations are established and maintained, with arms, regalia and equipment, with officers of varying rank and military titles; these officers being bound to obey without question the commands of the superior officer in authority of the plaintiff corporation."

"In addition to this band known as 'knight riders' or 'black robe' gang, armed, equipped and masked, are formed and operated here and there throughout the country, both organizations being used at times as instruments of terror, oppression and violence, and being thus a continuing menace to the public peace and destructive of the public order."

## Violations of Law.

"The evidence in this case establishes conclusively gross violations of the law committed by the plaintiff

within the western district of Pennsylvania."

Judge Thomson then reviewed testimony, which he said showed that klansmen unlawfully attacked a negro in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, under orders of S. D. Rich, then grand dragon, suspended him from a tree with a rope and kicked and abused him. He said that Rich had ordered the kidnaping of a little girl in Pittsburgh in June, 1923, and that she was kidnaped and that to date no one knows whether "she is alive or dead."

The court held that Evans was responsible for the fatal Carnegie, Pa., riot in 1923, having given the klansmen orders to march in defiance of civil authorities.

"The evidence also disclosed that in Texas, men were brought before the Klan, tried and convicted, and in some instances, were subjected to brutal beatings, and in others were condemned to death and burned at the stake," the opinion continued.

"In view of all the facts disclosed by the evidence, the plaintiff corporation, stigmatized as it is, by its unlawful acts and conduct, could hardly hope for judicial assistance in a court of the United States, which is highly commissioned to extend to all litigants before it, without distinction of race, creed, color or condition, those high guarantees of liberty and equality vouchsafed by the constitution of the United States. . . . A court which fully recognizes that this is a government of law and not of men . . . this unlawful organization, so destructive of the rights and liberties of the people, have come in vain asking this court of equity for injunctive or other relief. They come with filthy hands and can get no assistance here."

## KLAN IS DENOUNCED BITTERLY BY JUDGE AND LOSES ITS SUIT

**Thomson Says Order Comes to  
Court With Filthy Hands—  
Blames Evans for Riots**

**FINDS K. K. K. FOMENTS  
CRIME, SHATTERS LAWS**

**New Proceeding to Revoke  
Klux Charter in Pennsyl-  
vania Now Is Planned**

*New York World*



Special Despatch to The World

PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 13.—Bitterly arraighing the Ku Klux Klan as a lawless body coming into court with "filthy hands," and holding Hiram Wesley Evans, Imperial Wizard, personally responsible for the fatal Carnegie riots, Judge W. H. S. Thomson in Federal Court this afternoon dismissed the suit of the hooded order which sought to bar five "banished" members of Western Pennsylvania Klans from using the name of the Ku Klux Klan and asking damages in the sum of \$100,000 from each of them.

Judge Thomson's ruling held the Klan is an unlawful institution. He also charged it is "directly responsible for the breaking down of the fundamental principles upon which our Government is founded."

Attorney Barrickman announced tonight that he would probably start quo warranto proceedings before the Attorney General of Pennsylvania within two weeks to have the charter of the Ku Klux Klan revoked in this State. He will use the testimony secured at the trial and the decision of Judge Thomson as a basis for his request.

Evans took the stand to-day and denied the wholesale charges of brutal atrocities and debauchery of courts, State and Municipal Governments, made by witnesses who were former Klansmen, but he failed to sway the judgment of the Court.

#### Legal Battle Closed

Judge Thomson's opinion brought to a close—at least for a time—one of the most sensational legal battles ever fought out in the courts of this country. The Klan's suit against the five banished members drew a counter suit, asking that the charter of the Klan in Pennsylvania be revoked, a receiver appointed and accounting be given of over \$15,000,000 which the Klan is said to have collected from more than 300,000 members in the State of Pennsylvania. Judge Thomson dismissed this suit Wednesday, ruling that revocation of the charter was a State matter and beyond the jurisdiction of the United States courts. In his opinion to-day, after describing the suit, Judge Thomson said:

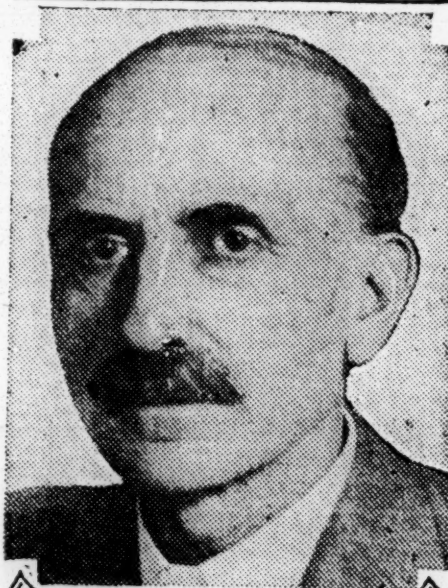
"Under the testimony of the defense, which comes from Klansmen themselves, the Court has no difficulty in finding, and does now find, that the plaintiff corporation obtained its charter for charitable, eleemosynary, patriotic and other like purposes, and being so chartered, was granted by the State of Pennsylvania a right to do business within the Commonwealth presumably for the purposes set forth in its charter; that, acting under the guise

of its chartered purposes, it acquired a membership in this State of from 240,000 to 300,000 persons.

#### Sees Charter Violated

"That in violation of its charter, and in violation of its own constitution, it has established and is maintaining a form of despotic rule, which is being operated in secret, under the direct

#### ARRAIGNS KLAN as Menace to Principles of Nation



Judge W. H. SEWARD THOMSON

Special Despatch to The World  
PITTSBURGH, April 13.—Judge W. H. S. Thomson, presiding over the Ku Klux Klan suit in this State, is a Presbyterian. He has been accused of wet leanings. Before his appointment to the Federal bench in 1913, was one of the best constitutional lawyers in Pennsylvania.

sanction and authority of the plaintiff's chief officers. That in violation of the rights and liberties of the people, it has set up tribunals not known to the law, before which citizens of the Commonwealth, not members of the Klan, are brought, subjected to some form of trial, and upon conviction, severe corporal punishments are imposed, painful, humiliating and often brutal in their character, and in some instances, destructive of life itself.

"That under the direct authorization of the principal officers of the Klan in the State, men are designated for punishment, and are punished and maltreated, without any legal charge being preferred against them and without a hearing or trial, in open and flagrant violation of the Constitution and laws of the land.

"That the plaintiff organization, through its actual operations and teachings, has stirred up racial and religious prejudices, fomented disorder and encouraged riots and unlawful as-

semblies which have resulted in flagrant breaches of the peace, defiance of law, bloodshed and loss of life, and that such unlawful assemblies and riots have, in many instances, been brought about for the avowed purpose on the part of the officers in control of increasing the membership of the organization.

#### Denounces Reign of Terror

"That in the secret operations of the corporation's activities, and in hostility to the civil authorities, military organizations are established and maintained, with arms, regalia and equipment, with officials of varying rank and military titles; these officers being bound to obey without question the commands of the superior officer in authority of the plaintiff corporation.

"In addition to this, bands known as night riders or the black robed gang, armed, equipped and masked, are formed and operated here and there throughout the country, both organizations being used at times as instruments of terror, oppression and violence, and being thus a continuing menace to the public peace and destructive of the public order.

"The evidence in this case establishes conclusively gross violations of the law committed by the plaintiff within the western district of Pennsylvania.

"On the 6th day of July, 1923, under the direct orders of Sam D. Rich, Grand Dragon of the State of Pennsylvania, a band of seven or more men were sent into Beaver County to punish a Negro. Pursuant to this unlawful purpose, they stopped the victim on the tracks of a railroad, thrust revolvers against the body of the Negro, bound and gagged him, threw him face downward in an automobile, the occupants of the machine sitting with their feet upon him. They then took him to Patterson Heights, a suburb of Beaver Falls, and although earnestly protesting his innocence, tied a rope around his neck and threw it over the limb of a tree and swung him from the ground. After being thus suspended for a time they then let him down, obtained a confession through these circumstances of duress and punishment, and after kicking him in the stomach and otherwise abusing him, left him and returned to Pittsburgh.

#### Girl's Kidnapping Ordered

"On the 4th day of June, 1923, the said Sam D. Rich, Grand Dragon of the State, ordered the kidnapping of a little girl three or four years of age, who was living with her grandparents on Negley Avenue, in the City of Pittsburgh. Not only did he order the kidnapping but was present and took an active and leading part therein, seizing the child when in front of its home, put her in an automobile, transferred her to another automobile, where she was transported to parts unknown, the grandparents from whom the kidnapping was effected having never to this day learned of the whereabouts of the child, or whether or not she is alive or dead.

"I also find as a fact that Hiram Wesley Evans was present and spoke to the assembled multitude at Carnegie immediately before the riot. That he and Rich were well aware the civil authorities of Carnegie had forbidden the parade through the borough, and that in defiance of this position and in utter disregard of the consequences which might naturally follow, he gave

the order to march, which resulted in the serious riot in which men were beaten and severely injured, at least one other man was wounded by gunfire and another man shot to death. Under these circumstances, he was directly responsible for the riot and bloodshed which ensued.

"The evidence also disclosed that in the State of Texas men were brought before the Klan, tried and convicted, and in some instances were subjected to brutal beatings, and in others were condemned to death and burned at the stake.

#### "Stigmatized by Unlawful Acts"

"In view of all the facts disclosed by the evidence, the plaintiff corporation, stigmatized as it is by its unlawful acts and conduct, could hardly hope for judicial assistance in a court of the United States, which is highly commissioned to extend to all litigants before it, without distinction of race, creed, color or condition, those high guarantees of liberty and equality vouchsafed by the Constitution of the United States. A court whose duty is to recognize and uphold religious freedom as the first fruits of our civilization; to secure to every accused the right to full knowledge of the accusation against him, and a fair and impartial trial of the issue, before a jury of his peers. A court which fully recognizes that this is a Government of law and not of men, and that no man shall be deprived of his life, his liberty or his property without due process of law.

"This unlawful organization, so destructive of the rights and liberties of the people, have come in vain asking this court of equity for injunctive or other relief. They come with filthy hands and can get no assistance here. Plaintiff's prayers for relief are denied and the bill is dismissed at the cost of the plaintiff.

#### ORDER

"And now, to wit, April 13, 1928, the foregoing action having come on for hearing on bill and answers and testimony taken, and after arguments by counsel, on full consideration thereof, the prayers of plaintiff's bill are denied and the bill is dismissed at the plaintiff's costs."

#### Evans on the Stand

Evans's appearance on the stand to-day climaxed the efforts of the Klan's chief counsel, J. H. Connaughton, to refute by witnesses the charges of bloody terrorism and debauchery of State Governments and courts fastened

onto the hooded order by ex-Klansmen. The Imperial Wizard was a surprise witness, although it had been believed for several days that he was in this city.

On direct examination Evans denied having participated at any time or place in any of the acts of violence charged against him. He also strenuously denied having any knowledge of any of the atrocities testified to by previous witnesses.

The pyrotechnics came when the Imperial Wizard was turned over to Barrickman for cross-examination. Glaring at each other like bull dogs on leash, Barrickman shot over his questions with the snap of a black-snake whip, and the witness replying in kind, continuously moistened his parched lips with a tongue that never seemed to be still.

#### Questioned on Flogging

Q. (By Mr. Connaughton): A witness called Ludlow has testified that you sentenced a man in Dallas to a tarring

#### HELD RESPONSIBLE for Klan Terror, He Denies Charges



Dr. HIRAM W. EVANS.

and feathering after a whipping, and that this was done in your presence in 1920. A. No such thing ever occurred.

Q. This man Ludlow has testified also that he saw seven or eight persons burned to death at Terrell, Tex. Have you ever known anything of this sort to happen? A. Never, no sir.

Q. Were you ever a member of a Kangaroo Court which sentenced a man to a flogging? A. Never.

Q. Have you ever taken part in the flogging of a man?

Mr. Barrickman—I object. He wouldn't admit it if he had.

The Court—Objection sustained.

Mr. Barrickman had evident relish in objecting to many of the questions put to Evans by Mr. Connaughton, the majority of which were sustained by Judge Thomson.

#### At Carnegie Riot

Q. You were present at the Carnegie demonstration on Aug. 25, 1923? A. I was.

Q. You advised against the Klan parade on that evening? A. Yes, I did; but I told the gathered members of the Klan that as Americans they had a perfect right to parade, and that they did not need a permit to do so.

Evans gave all his answers with marked positiveness.

Q. You delivered an address to the Klansmen on that occasion? A. Yes.

Q. Were any of the Klansmen directed to arm themselves? A. No, they were instructed not to carry weapons of any kind.

Q. You were once Exalted Cyclops of the Dallas, Tex., Klan? A. Yes, before I became Imperial Wizard.

Q. In such office did you ever order the flogging of any man? A. Never, and I never knew of such a thing occurring.

Q. Do you know of any black-robed gang in the Ku Klux Klan? A. There is no black-robed organization connected in any way with the Klan.

#### Evans Is Cross-Examined

Mr. Barrickman crept forward fairly like a tiger when he took up the cross-examination of Evans.

Q. What titles have you in the Klan in addition to Imperial Wizard? A. I am Emperor of the Invisible Empire.

Q. You are at the head of a military

Continued on Back II



# Klan Trial Is Out Of Court

## Judge Refers Question To State For Settlement

PITTSBURGH, PA., April 11.—(P)—The suit of five former members of the Ku Klux Klan to restrain the order from operating in Pennsylvania, was thrown out of Federal Court here late today by Judge W. H. S. Thomson, who ruled that he was without jurisdiction and that it was a question for the state to settle.

Coming with dramatic suddenness, during a heated argument between counsel on the jurisdiction of the court, the opinion made a clean sweep of the counter-action of the five members who sought a receivership for the Klan in Pennsylvania and asked for an accounting of some \$150,000 said to have been collected by the order in this state.

The original Klan suit to restrain the five members from interfering with it and conducting initiations, and asking for \$100,000 damages from them, was not affected by the opinion, and the trial of this action was continued.

After three days of sensational testimony, during which Klansmen were charged with burning men alive in Texas; organizing a "night riders" terrorist branch in Oklahoma and Ohio; horse-whipping the "offending citizens" and causing riots, and other disorders, the opposing attorneys today brought the counter-action case to a head when they engaged in an argument over jurisdiction. Judge Thomson halted the argument and handed down his opinion. In addition to throwing out the case against the Klan, he held that if charges of lawlessness against the order were sustained, it would not be a crime, but perhaps the duty of the State of Pennsylvania to revoke the license under which the Klan operates in this state.

Sensation followed sensation as trial of the case proceeded today, before the judge handed down the opinion. Van A. Barrickman, defense counsel and one of the five ousted Klansmen, during an argument with John Connaughton, Klan attorney, charged that Imperial Wizard Hiram Evans had used Klan funds to foster murders, arson and riots, and that he had boasted he would control Federal and state governments and elect presidents. Barrickman made these remarks while reading a deposition made by William J. Simmons, founder of the Klan, who was replaced as imperial wizard by Evans. The remarks led to a question of jurisdiction and here the judge stepped in and delivered his opinion.

These followed introduction of a deposition by D. C. Stephenson, former Indi-

ana Klan leader, now serving a life term for the murder of a girl. A Klan motion to throw this deposition out was overruled, Judge Thomson holding it would stand as evidence, except the portions which are immaterial and irrelevant.

Barrickman, addressing the court, demanded that Evans be summoned as a witness, but Connaughton said he had no statement to make concerning the appearance of the imperial wizard at the trial.

Connaughton asked the court to delay the trial 48 hours so that he might subpoena witnesses from Texas to refute the testimony of Clarence W. Ludlow, former member of the Dallas Lodge No. 66, that Klansmen burned at the stake seven or eight whites and negroes in that state.

Judge Thomson refused to grant the delay, whereupon Connaughton said the judge's action placed the Klan in a peculiar position. Connaughton did not indicate whether he would get the witness to come to Pittsburgh.

Persistent reports were prevalent in court circles that Evans already was in Pittsburgh and ready to take the stand for the Klan. When broached on this subject, Connaughton said, "I won't say one way or the other."

## Founder Seeks Klan Receiver Fight Among Ku Klux Continues

PITTSBURGH, April 7.—(P)—Charging that he was marked for death because he openly opposed "maladministration" of the affairs of the Ku Klux Klan under the Evans administration, William J. Simmons, founder of the order, filed a deposition in Federal Court here today, supporting five former members in their suit to have a receiver appointed for the Klan in this state.

The receivership suit, a counter action filed after the Klan had asked that the former members be restrained from using its name, will be called up in court Monday. The former members ask that a receiver be named and that the Klan account for all money collected in the state. The Klan, asking the restraining order, sought \$100,000 damages from the ex-members, claiming they collected that sum from Klan members without authorization.

Simmons, in his deposition, assailed the administration of Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans and charged that he had "reliable information" indicating that persons connected with Evans had sought to take his life. He said that Phil Fox, publicity agent for Evans, had attempted to assassinate him the day before Fox

killed Capt. W. S. Coburn, Atlanta attorney.

"Since the present administration took charge of the Klan," Simmons continued, "judging from all that I have been able to see and hear, it has been destructive and conducted contrary to its original plans and purposes. \* \* \* I could not consistently remain or be a member of the order and thereby indorse the maladministration of the organization. The entire conduct of the administration of the Klan throughout the nation under his (Evans') regime is grossly disgusting, and very evidently manifests everything else but a spirit and purpose of constructive patriotism."

Simmons charged that Evans overthrew him as chief of the Klan by a conspiracy in which D. C. Stephenson, now serving a life term for murder in Indiana, was involved. He said this conspiracy was entered into before the Imperial Klono-vation in Nov., 1922. He named Fred L. Savage and Paul S. Ethelridge as parties to the alleged conspiracy and charged that he had reason to believe Evans was made imperial wizard by enemies of the Klan into whose hands he had played and "wrought its sure wreckage."

Simmons said that while he was at the head of the order there never was a riot involving the Klan. He alleged that he had knowledge of the wholesale squandering and misappropriation of Klan funds under the present administration.

During the day, attorneys for the Klan appeared before Federal Judge W. H. S. Thomson and moved that a deposition by Stephenson, previously entered, be suppressed. The court announced it would rule on the petition Monday.

## KLANS WITNESSES DEFEND ACTIVITIES

### Contradicting Testimony Given In Federal Court Trial Against Quintet

PITTSBURGH, April 12.—(P)—A general defense of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan in Pennsylvania during demonstrations and resultant riots, was made in Federal Court here today as the Klan began its fight to prevent five former members from conducting initiations and meetings.

Contradicting testimony of witnesses called by the ex-Klansmen, whose suit to place the order in receivership in this state was dismissed by the court, nearly a score of Klansmen denied that members of the organization carried arms or instigated any feeling among citizens where meetings were held.

Henry C. Howard, Pittsburgh, said Hiram W. Evans, imperial wizard, made every attempt to halt the parade of

klansmen prior to the clash between them and towns folks at Carnegie, Pa., Aug. 25, 1923. He testified when the Klansmen began to march that Evans ignored Sam D. Rich, then Pennsylvania grand dragon, to stop them, but that they paid no heed to orders. Howard said the Klansmen were orderly and that citizens standing along the line of march threw missiles into their ranks.

John H. Connaughton, counsel for the Klan, sought to prove through James A. Colescott, acting grand dragon of Ohio and J. E. McQuinn, of Washington, D. C., cashier and member of the Klan's national board of directors, that no organization known as "night riders" existed in the Klan. Judge W. H. S. Thompson refused to permit testimony of his nature.

J. R. Ramsey, Dayton, Ohio, testifying Tuesday for the ousted Klansmen, said the "night riders" was organized to conduct a reign of terror in Ohio and its members bombed the Klan temple in Dayton to increase membership.

Cross-examining McQuinn, Van Arkman, one of the defendants and counsel, handed McQuinn a picture of a Klono-cium at Buckeye Lake, Ohio, in 1925 and asked him what the "black robes" in the background signified. McQuinn said he could see no such regalia, but remarked the objects resembled black trees and umbrellas. The witness recognized Evans as among those on the photograph.

## Riot, Kidnaping And Lynchings Laid To Klan

### Former Exalted Cyclops Bares Alleged Actions In Pennsylvania

## Negro Flogged Young Girl Abducted; "Never Found"

PITTSBURGH, April 9.—(P)—Riots, a kidnaping and attempted lynchings were laid at the door of the Pennsylvania realm, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, by Roy S. Barclay, former exalted cyclops and private investigator for a Pittsburgh lodge of the hooded order who testified today at the Federal Court hearing on Klan injunction suits.

Appearing in behalf of the former Klansmen who have asked the court to appoint a receiver for the organization

in Western Pennsylvania, Barclay said he participated with other members of the order in the march at the instigation of Sam D. Rich, former grand dragon in this state.

### March Was Ordered.

Detailing the riot at Carnegie, Pa., August 25, 1923, in which a Klansman was killed and several others injured in a battle with townspeople, Barclay, who formerly was identified with Central Klan No. 32, Pittsburgh, testified Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans gave the signal for the march of the members from a field into the town of Carnegie. He said Rich rode in the front line of automobiles at the time the clash occurred between Klansmen and Carnegie citizens.

"I told Evans the burgess of Carnegie did not want us to march," Barclay said he told the imperial wizard at a meeting of 25,000 Klansmen at the field. "Evans told the crowd they had better not march, but when the Klansmen became hostile he issued the order for the parade."

"If we hadn't marched, we would have been banished and ostracised from the organization," he testified, adding 25,000 members each paid 50 cents for admission to the meeting.

Barclay, questioned by Atty. Van A. Barrickman, chief counsel and one of the five "banished" members, said a cross was fired on a hillside preceding the parade.

He told of other riots at McKees Rocks, Pa., Sept., 1920; Scottsdale, Pa., Sept., 1923 and Lilly, Pa., April 4, 1924.

On each excursion, the "wrecking crew," as Barclay termed it, went "armed with guns, blackjacks and other weapons."

### Flogged Negro.

Barclay testified "seven or nine" Klansmen attempted to lynch a negro at Beaver, Pa., about July 6, 1923, after the negro had been questioned about his relations with a white girl. "We took this negro out to an oak tree in the woods and strung him up by the neck, after which some of the Klansmen flogged and kicked him," Barclay said.

He said Rich also issued orders for the attempted lynchings of another negro at Oakdale, Pa., Aug. 1923. On another occasion, he said the Klansmen beat a negro at a park dance.

Barclay, who still was on the stand when court adjourned until tomorrow related the kidnaping of a four-year-old girl in Pittsburgh. He was asked by Barrickman whether the girl ever was located and he replied, "I don't think so."

He testified David C. Stephenson, former leader of the Indiana Klan and now serving a life term for murder, had charge of the Pennsylvania realm in 1922 and that he came in contact with Stephenson once a week in person and every day through correspondence.

Barclay accused Rich of concealing 6,000 members in Pennsylvania or \$60,000 as each member paid \$10 on induction into the secret order. He said he was instructed by Stephenson to investigate this matter, but that Rich stopped him.

### Rich Advocated Rioting

Joseph R. Schoemaker, former secre-



tary-treasurer of Central Klan No. 32, also testified that Rich advocated rioting. "Rich suggested another riot to bring up the klan," he said.

"What kind of a riot?" queried Barrickman.

"Similar to the one in Carnegie," Schoemaker answered.

John H. Connaughton, of Washington, D. C., counsel for the klan, which asks for an injunction to prohibit the former members from conducting initiations and collecting moneys in this state, objected to Barrickman's line of questioning, but was overruled by the court. The trial judge, W. H. S. Thomson, told the witnesses to testify to facts.

Col. William J. Simmons, Atlanta, Ga., former imperial wizard and founder of the klan, may come to Pittsburgh to testify for the ex-members. Barrickman said, Simmons already has given a deposition for use by the klan rebels.

Schoemaker declared the klan had a larger representation in Western Pennsylvania, but it was "building up rapidly in the Eastern part of the state."

He "conservatively" estimated the membership in Pennsylvania at between 225,000 and 250,000.

Testifying as to the financial records of 204 local lodges in Pennsylvania, he said the original plan was that of the \$10 paid for initiation, \$4 went to the kleagle, \$1 to the state organization and \$5 to national headquarters at Atlanta. This was later changed, he said, so that \$4 went to the kleagle, \$2 into the coffers of the Pennsylvania realm and \$4 to the national organization. He said the money now is divided as follows: \$4 to the kleagle, \$2.25 to the state order and \$3.75 to the national body.

## KLAN INJUNCTION SUIT TOSSED OUT OF COURT

Federal Judge Rules He Is  
Without Jurisdiction.

PITTSBURGH, April 11.—(AP)—Suit of five former members of the Ku Klux Klan to restrain the order from operating in Pennsylvania, was thrown out of federal court here today by Judge W. H. S. Thomson, who ruled that he was without jurisdiction and that it was a question for the state to settle.

Coming with dramatic suddenness, the argument between counsel on the jurisdiction of the court, the opinion made a clean sweep of the counter action of the five members, who sought a receivership for the klan in Pennsylvania and asked for an accounting of some \$15,000,000 said to have been collected by the order in this state.

The original klan suit to restrain the five members from interfering with it and conducting initiations, and asking for \$100,000 damages from them, was not affected by the opinion, and trial of this action was continued.

After three days of sensational

testimony during which klansmen were charged with burning men alive in Texas; organizing a "night riders" terrorist branch in Oklahoma and Ohio; horsewhipping "the offending citizens" and causing riots, and other disorders, the opposing attorneys today brought the counter action case to a head when they engaged in an argument over jurisdiction. Judge Thomson halted the argument and handed down his opinion. In addition to throwing out the case against the klan, he held that if charges of lawlessness against the order were sustained, it would not only be the right but perhaps the duty of the state of Pennsylvania to revoke the license under which the klan operates in this state.

## Riots Charged To Ku Kluxers

Federal Judge Delivers  
Stinging Indictment

PITTSBURGH, April 13.—(AP)—A stern indictment of the Ku Klux Klan, in which it was held to be responsible for riots, bloodshed and the burning of men alive, was made here late today by Federal Judge W. H. S. Thomson. In an opinion dismissing an injunction suit brought by the order against five former members.

The court, after hearing sensational testimony for five days, including a general denial by Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans, charged, among other things, that the organization came into the court of equity with "filthy hands" and that it could not gain any relief from him.

In dismissing the klan petition for an injunction to restrain the former members from using its name and asking for \$500,000 damages, Judge Thomson placed the costs upon the klan.

The court upheld practically every bit of testimony offered by the defendants against the klan, including allegations that klansmen had burned a negro alive in Texas; that they had flogged other citizens; that they had maintained a secret terrorist organization known as the "knight riders" and "black robe" gang; that they had fostered riots; that they had caused bombs to be set off in an effort to increase klan memberships; that they had kidnaped a child in Pittsburgh; and that they had stirred up racial and religious feelings throughout the country.

Judge Thomson held that the klan, with the sanction of Evans and other leading officers, had not only violated its own constitution and laws, but had invaded the rights of citizens who were not members of the organization.

### Repeal Is Probable

After entering his order of dismissal, the court noted that the plaintiff took exception. Klan attorneys said they

probably would confer on the question of carrying the case to a higher court.

Several days ago, in another opinion, Judge Thomson had dismissed the cross complaint of the five defendants, in which they sought to have a receiver named for the klan in Pennsylvania and asked that the klan account for some \$15,000,000 said to have been collected in the state. At that time the court said that if the charges entered against the klan were upheld, it would not only be the right but perhaps the duty of the State of Pennsylvania to revoke the charter under which the klan operates.

"That under the direct authorization of the principal officers of the klan in the state, men are designated for punishment and are punished and maltreated, without any legal charge being preferred against them and without a hearing on trial, in open and flagrant violation of the Constitution and laws of the land."

Only three witnesses were heard and arguments made before the court delivered the opinion. Evans had denied all charges made by the defense, including allegations of the burning of men, the bombing of churches and other properties, the fostering of riots and the existence of any "black robe" and "knight rider" within the klan.

W. G. Seemiller, Philadelphia, the last witness called by the defense, charged that a super-secret order did exist within the klan and he offered in evidence a hood, with skull and crossbones and a black robe containing the klan insignia.

Defense counsel in arguments contended charges of violence and other lawlessness against the klan had been sustained by testimony, while klan attorneys argued the injunction should be granted, holding that other courts had ruled that an organization, such as the klan, had the sole right to use its name. They contended the entire action of the five ousted members hinged upon a fight for the Pennsylvania grand dragonship of the klan, saying "if their man had been elected, they would be marching behind Imperial Wizard Evans today and going down the line."

### Operates in Secret

Pointing out that much of the defense testimony came from klansmen, the court said it had no difficulty in finding that the klan "has established and is maintaining a form of despotic rule which is being operated in secret, under direct sanction and authority of the plaintiff's chief officers. That in violation of the rights and liberties of the people, it has set up tribunals not known to the law, before which citizens of the commonwealth, not members of the klan, are brought subjected to some form of trial, and upon conviction, severe corporal punishments are imposed, painful, humiliating and often brutal in their character and in some instances destructive of life itself.

"That under the direct authorization of the principal officers of the klan in the state, men are designated for punishment and are punished and maltreated, without any legal charge being preferred against them and without a hearing or trial, in open and flagrant violation of the constitution and laws of the land. That the plaintiff organization,

through its actual operations and teachings, have stirred up racial and religious prejudices, fomented disorder and encouraged riots and unlawful assemblies, which have resulted in flagrant breaches of the peace, defiance of the law, bloodshed and loss of life, and that such unlawful assemblies and riots have, in many instances, been brought about for the avowed purpose on the part of the officers in control, of increasing the membership of the organization.

### Military Organization Maintained

"That in the secret opinions of the corporation's activities, and in hostility to the civil authorities, military organizations are established and maintained, with arms, regalia and equipment, with officers of varying rank and military titles; these officers being bound to obey without question the commands of the superior officer in authority of the plaintiff corporation.

"In addition to this band known as 'knight riders' or the 'black robe' gang, armed, equipped and masked, are formed and operated here and there throughout the country, both organizations being used at times as instruments of terror, oppression and violence, and being thus a continuing menace to the public peace and destructive of the public order.

### Gross Violations Charged

"The evidence in this case establishes conclusively gross violations of the law committed by the plaintiff within the western district of Pennsylvania."

Judge Thomson then reviewed testimony which he said showed that klansmen unlawfully attacked a negro in Beavey County, Pa., under orders of S. D. Rich, then grand dragon, suspended him from a tree with a rope and kicked and abused him. He said that Rich had ordered the kidnaping of a little girl in Pittsburgh in June, 1923, and that she was kidnaped and that to date no one knows whether "she is alive or dead."

The court held that Evans was responsible for the fatal Carnegie, Pa., riot in 1923, having given the klansmen orders to march in defiance of civil authorities.

"The evidence also disclosed that in the State of Texas men were brought before the klan, tried and convicted, and in some instances were subjected to brutal beatings and in others were condemned to death and burned at the stake," the opinion continued.

### Government of Law Proclaimed

"In view of all the facts disclosed by the evidence, the plaintiff corporation, stigmatized as it is, by its unlawful acts and conduct, could hardly hope for judicial assistance in a court of the United States, which is highly commissioned to extend to all litigants before it, without distinction of race, creed, color or condition, those high guarantees of liberty and equality vouchered for by the constitution of the United States. \* \* \* a court which fully recognizes that this is a government of law and not of men \* \* \* this unlawful organization, so destructive of the rights and liberties of the people, have come in vain asking this court of equity for injunctive or other relief. They come with filthy hands and can get no assistance here."

Continued  
from I

organization in this Republic? A. A patriotic organization military in form.

Q. You have Klansmen address you as Your Lordship?

This roused a laugh in the audience in which Evans joined. Mr. Connaughton objected and was sustained.

Q. You say there is no black-robed gang in the Klan? A. I do.

Q. Did you not see a black-robed gang at a meeting of the Klan at Buckeye Lake in August, 1925. A. Yes, a man in black robes came up on the platform at that meeting and offered me the services of his organization in connection with the Klan. I shook hands with him and thanked him, but declined the offer and I've never heard of the man since.

Q. This man was in black robes with a skull and crossbones on his head-dress? A. Yes, he was in black and wore an insignia that portrayed a skull and bones.

Q. Don't you make your Klansmen take a blood-curdling oath to support you? A. I tell my men that loyalty to their country is their first duty and that this takes precedence over any oath to the Klan. The Klan is a secret organization and we do not want our members to disclose their identities as such. But it is not true that they swear allegiance to me or to the Klan above the United States.

### "No Idea of Trouble"

Q. As yours is a military organization, you could have prevented the Carnegie riot and bloodshed? A. Yes, I suppose I could have done so, but I had no idea whatever there would be trouble.

Q. Now, to go back, you say you never ordered a man to be flogged in Texas. Do you know Mr. Ludlow, who has testified that you not only ordered the punishment but witnessed it? A. I do not know him and I repeat that no such thing as that ever occurred, nor did I ever hear of such a thing happening.

When the cross-examination of Evans was ended, the Imperial Wizard turned to Judge Thomson.

"May I make a statement to your Honor?"

"Not unless it bears upon the testimony you have given," Judge Thomson replied.

"It is related to what has been mentioned in this trial," Evans said.

"I object," Mr. Barrickman exclaimed. "This man makes too many statements to Americans as it is."

The Court refused to let Evans speak and he left the stand.

Two more witnesses followed and then the attorneys summed up, after which Judge Thomson delivered his opinion.



Ku Klux Klan - 1928

Virginia.

NEWPORT NEWS

VIRGINIA

MAR 13 1928

SENATOR HEFLIN'S DANGER.

The Planet, a negro newspaper published in Richmond, has a letter from Senator Tom Heflin, which, the Planet says, is "decidedly interesting and contains much information that we would like to analyze in these columns." Just why it does not analyze them the Planet does not say, but it makes a few interesting comments. "It seems," says the Planet, "that Senator Heflin alleges that he and his associates are endangered and threatened by the Knights of Columbus in the same manner that the negroes were endangered and threatened by the Ku Klux Klan of other days."

Poor Senator! He must be uneasy indeed, that he should appeal for protection to a colored editor in Virginia, and seeks to arouse sympathy by reminding the colored man that the Senator is threatened by the same sort of an organization that once terrorized the colored race.

But what does the K. K. K. think of that? Senator Heflin had better look out. He may be jumping from the frying pan into the fire.

March 11 and in which Tom Martin and his wife, Mrs. Breedy Martin, were lashed, was not learned of until Friday, the Martins having been too frightened to tell of the atrocity.

Tied to Tree

In telling of the flogging Martin said that he and his wife were called from their cabin at midnight one Sunday. They were stripped and tied to a nearby tree, and then beaten with heavy belts and left tied to the tree. Mrs. Martin was in a serious condition for several days as a result of the flogging. The flogging is said to have resulted from "too much talking" by the Martins, the nature of which is obscure.

Cause of Controversy

The Martins were peaceable and work at truck gardening. They were said to have been resentful of being classified as "colored people," but were so regarded. They were in issue in the last Virginia Assembly when the racial integrity bill, designed to draw a sharper line of demarcation between the race, was up.

The victims belong to the so-called Croatan colony, which for many generations has been known as "Cuba," and which is 16 miles from Halifax. The settlement of 300 sprawls across the Virginia-Carolina line.

MAN AND  
WIFE ARE  
FLOGGED

Offer Reward For Capture of  
Midnight Invaders Who  
Lashed Pair-Who "Talk-  
ed Too Much"

HALIFAX, Va., April 11.—An offer of a reward of \$100 for the capture of a band of night riders who flogged a colored farmer and his wife was posted by county officials Saturday. The flogging, which occurred